THE

AMERICAN FARMER,

AND

SPIRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

"O FORTUNATOS NIMIUM SUA SI BONA NORINT
"AGRICOLAS." . . . . *Virg.*

Vol. III. **BALTIMORE, SEPTEMBER, 1847.** **No. 3.**

WORK FOR SEPTEMBER.

This is the month when every energy of the farmer should be put forth to fallow his ground, for the reception of his wheat and rye crops, and as such is the case, we would remind all who may not have got through with their ploughing, that they should bestir themselves, as the sooner the wheat is sown after the 15th of the month, the greater assurance will they have of its withstanding atmospheric influences during winter and early spring. As to *Rye*, that should have been put in before this, as when sown early it affords good pasture for sheep and calves, without in the least decreasing the yield of grain. Indeed, we doubt much, whether a week's depasturing on fields of Rye, each spring early, by such stock, would not increase the product of the kernel. If, therefore, there should be any who may not have sown their Rye, they should hasten to do so without further delay, and thus place themselves in a position to address themselves to whatever other labors may demand their attention.

Now let us turn our steps towards the work which should be looked to

ON THE FARM.

Rye.—We have already advised you, who have it still to do, to get in your Rye as quick as possible.—In ploughing your ground, see that your ploughmen does you justice, that he runs his furrow *deep* and turns his slice over flat, and that he harrows and rolls it until he obtains a perfectly fine tilth.

In preparing the seed, soak them in a brine made of salt and water, strong enough to float an egg, twelve hours; then drain off the brine, and roll the rye in plaster and lime, or ashes, *just immediately before sowing* each day. By such treatment you will cause the seed to germinate quicker, and the plant to grow more freely, besides securing your crop against the *smut* next year.

If the land in which you may sow Rye has not been limed or ashed, give to each acre of it if you can, from 10 to 20 bushels, or the same number of bushels of slacked ashes, or an equal number of lime and ashes, well mixed together.

Grain prepared as we have directed, may remain several days in the soak without injury; but should always be sown the same day on which it may be taken out of it—and should be *ploughed* instead of being harrowed in.

As to the quantity of seed per acre, we would never sow less than 4, and would prefer 5 pecks per acre.

The seed being sown, the ground should be harrowed and rolled—which being done, let water furrows be so run as to prevent water from remaining on the field, as there is nothing like securing the plants a dry bed during winter and spring.

Wheat.—As this is a great and important crop on most farms, it is peculiarly proper that all possible care be taken to put the ground in the very best possible order. If it were possible to get through with the work, we would say, that every wheat-field should be *subsoiled*, in addition to ordinary ploughing; but as that may not be practicable, we will say, that every one should personally attend his ploughmen, and make them turn over the earth as deep as a strong team can sink the plough-share. By *deep ploughing*, a much greater depth of earth is secured to the percolation of the water, and a comparatively dry bed secured for the plants during intervals of inclement weather—a greatly enlarged pasturage is secured to them, while the evil of winter killing is considerably lessened. In grounds not naturally *wet*, we believe that this evil would be remedied by sub-soil ploughing, we mean the passing of a *sub-soil plough* in the furrow of the share-plough, at the time of the latter operation, so as to pulverize some 6 or 8 inches below the depth of the furrow slice, and *not* to turn up, or invert the subsoil. There are ploughs to be had of most of the manufacturers, expressly made for such purpose. The practice of sub-soiling does not obtain much in our country, but has never been tried but with the best effects—resulting invariably in the *improvement* of the *quality*, and *increase* of the

quantity of the grain. In England, it has attained great popularity, and is said, together with *draining*, to have added one-third to the product of that realm. It, in fact, virtually gives two acres of soil for the plants to pasture on, for every one of surface culture—it protects them alike from the ills of extreme drought, and excessive wet—it unfolds new mineral resources to the roots of the plants, while the ease with which their descent is made, encourages a vigorous growth, and thus defends them from the uprooting influences of the freezings and thawings of winter and spring.

The ground which may be ploughed each day, if stiff, should be rolled and harrowed, so as to reduce all the clods to a fine tilth.

In turning the slices of Clover or grass leys, they must be laid flat, and care taken to cover all vegetable matter, so that none be left to interrupt the growth of the plants—the rolling and harrowing to be done lengthwise of the furrows. No baulks must be left by the ploughman, but he must be made to do his work with accuracy.

In seeding in Corn fields, we need hardly remark, that the surface should be well levelled in putting in the seed.

Preparation of the Seed.—As all, who have given any attention to the subject, do know that the *Smut* may be *prevented* by a little care at the time of sowing, we will give a few brief *recipes:*

1st.—Prepare a *ley* of wood ashes.

2d —A brine of salt and water.

3d.—A ley of lime—each strong enough to bear an egg or a potato. Graduate these steeps to the quantity of wheat you may wish to soak. Having prepared your steeps—take as much wheat as you wish to sow from day to day, *wash* it well in pure water from the pump or spring, until it no longer discolors the water, then put it into the steep, stir it well and skim off all the light grains which may float on the top. These light grains may be given to the horses or hogs. Let the seed remain the over night in the soak; next morning, when you are about to sow, drain off the water, and dry the seed in slacked lime, unslacked ashes or plaster. As soon as this is done, begin to sow, taking care not to dry more seed any one day than you can sow during that day. No harm is done to the seed while in the soak, for many days, but its germinating powers, if left for only a few days after being taken out and dried, would be destroyed.

If the ground has been long in culture and not limed, lime, or ashes, should be sown thereon—good grain, cannot be raised in a soil where lime and potash do not exist. A mixture of these minerals would be best, though an application of either, will answer —and for present purposes, an application of from 20 to 25 bushels to the acre will answer, though from 50 to 100 would be better.

Guano.—In this manure, the wheat-grower has a most excellent resource, and none who can, should fail to avail themselves to try its efficacy. Our own opinion of the proper mode of its application we gave in a seperate article last month, to which we now refer. It contains, within itself, all the elements of the manures that wheat, both in the *berry* and *straw*, stand in need of, and could not fail to ensure a good yield of grain. We commend its use.

Quantity of seed per acre. Two bushels should be sown per acre.

Water Furrows.—All wheat fields should be protected by a sufficient number of *water furrows*, to keep the plants dry.

Quality of Seed.—Every farmer, who grows wheat, should take especial care to sow none but *good seed*, the difference in the price between good and bad, is nothing when compared with the benefits resulting from the sowing of good seed over bad.

Where the soil is not in good heart, and other manures are not at hand, the soil will be benefitted, by sowing on each acre one bushel of plaster and two of salt, and the value of these would be much enhanced, by the addition of 5 bushels of bone dust and 5 of ashes.

Meadows.—If your last crop of grass was a light one, you may increase your next year's crop, by giving your meadows a top-dressing of a mixture of ashes and lime, say five bushels of each, sowing thereon a few pounds of timothy seed per acre, then passing your harrow over the field, and afterwards rolling it.

Sowing Grass Seed.—If you have not already done so, prepare the ground you have allotted for a timothy meadow. Manure it well, plough deeply, lay your furrow-slice flat, harrow thoroughly, until you get the soil perfectly fine, then sow on every acre a peck and a half of timothy seed, harrow it in lightly with a light harrow, and finish by rolling.

If you purpose sowing *Orchard Grass*, 2 bushels to the acre is the quantity—of *Red Top*, 1 bushel per acre. If a mixture of any two, one-half the quantity of each.

Ditching and Draining.—All *wet* grounds should be ditched and drained, and this is an excellent month for these operations. By laying the ground dry, you will, as it were, change the texture of the soil, sweeten the herbage, and increase the product.

Destruction of Garlic.—Fields that are infested with this pest, should be ploughed *shallow*, so as to expose the roots to the sun to kill. In November plough again, and repeat this operation the first open spell in winter, and you will go far towards killing this dire enemy of cleanly culture.

Tops and Blades.—Attend to this business before the sun exhales all their nutritious properties.

Accumulation of Manure.—Every farmer, who works 200 acres of land, should spare the entire time of a man and horse and cart, to gather the materials for manure. Let none say they have *not* time, as they may rest assured that such an appropriation of the time of a hand and horse will prove the most

productive labor on the farm. The *marshes*, the *heads of creeks and rivers, the road sides, head-lands, fence-corners, and fence-sides*, are all fruitful sources of such materials as may be converted into manure. Marsh mud, loam and leaves from the woods, scrapings of roads, weeds from the fences and old pastures; in a word, everything which will rot, may, by being spread on the cow yard, on the pig pens, and sheep yards, be converted into the very best manures during winter by these stock. In spreading it on these places, it should be so done—in a basin-like form—as to prevent loss by the liquid being washed away. And to prevent loss by evaporation, a few bushels of charcoal or one of plaster, should be occasionally strewn over the surface of these places. It should be the special duty of every farmer to prevent the loss of the *liquid* voidings of his stock. He may very readily estimate the *value* of urine, when we tell him that each full grown, well fed animal, will make enough in a single day to ensure the growth of a bushel of wheat. Should it not then be an object of the first importance with all, to see that their cow-yards are covered some two or three feet with such materials as will act as *absorbents*, to prevent the escape of this precious substance. The substances we have named, aided by plaster and charcoal, will effect this object. In spreading these latter substances, they should be so proportioned that 1 bushel of Plaster and 20 of Charcoal should be allotted to every 20 double-cart loads of rough material.

Getting out Grain.—Attend to this, and for the means of taking care of the grain after it shall have been threshed, we refer our readers to our last month's directions.

Orchards.—If you have not already done so, examine your trees, prune off all dead limbs as we advised last month, and then apply the mixture then recommended; then turn your hogs in to eat up the decayed fruit.

Hogs.—Some of your hogs should be penned to make manure for you. A pen full of hogs, would convert a load of any kind of *dirt* into good manure every ten days.

Salting of Stock.—This should be attended to twice a week. A mixture of salt and lime, or salt and ashes, is an excellent substitute for salt. Indeed, all stock would be the better of a gill of such mixture once a week, it would neutralize the acids of the stomach, improve the digestive organs, and give tone to the general health of the animal.

Out Houses.—Examine them all, and have such as may need it, repaired; then white-wash them outside and in. A coat of white wash purifies the buildings, adds to the chances of health of their inmates, increases the lastingness of the wood-work, and greatly improves the appearance of the homesteads.

Implements and Tools.—Let these be carefully examined—repair those out of order, and have such as may not be in daily use, put away out of the weather. Farm tools, which are kept under cover, will last half as long again as those that are always exposed to sunshine and rain.

Fences.—To prevent your neighbors or your own stock from being tempted by the weakness of your fences, to break into your corn-fields, go forthwith and examine every panel on your farm, repair such as require repairs, and thus assure yourself, that you will be protected alike from loss in crop, and from disagreement with your neighbors. Almost every one, when his neighbor's ox breaks in and destroys his corn, thinks the fault is with the beast, without looking at the *bait* he had thrown out, in the shape of bad fences, to encourage the trespass—hence it is, that many who should be friends, are not so,—to prevent such an occurrence this year, look to your fences. Of all men, *farmers* and *planters* should be the friends of each other, and should cultivate every thing that may may tend to preserve and cement their friendships. Their interests are the same, their calling the most virtuous of all others, and it should be their study, to promote each other's prosperity, happiness, and advancement, in all the ways of life, beginning first by keeping good fences, that forming one of the chief links in the chain of those affairs which keep up neighborly feelings.

Preparation of ground for an Orchard.—If you design setting out an orchard this fall, manure the ground, with well rotted manure of some sort. Plough in the manure deeply—and to make assurance doubly sure—*sub-soil* as well as plough. When the time for planting arrives, the ground must be again ploughed.

In the hope that all possible care may be taken in the preparation of the ground for fall grain, that the crops of the present and coming year may prove fruitful, that good prices and ready markets may reward the toils of the husbandman, that peace, with its blessings, may speedily be restored to our beloved country, and that prosperity, health and happiness, may abound throughout our land, we shall close our present month's conversation.

RULES FOR THE APPLICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF GUANO.

Since the recent arrival of a cargo of Peruvian Guano at this port, (Baltimore,) many questions have been put to us, with respect to the proper mode of applying Guano, as also to its proper management, to prevent the loss of the volatile parts of its fertilizing properties. With the view of answering several questions, which have been at various times propounded to us, we shall lay down a series of rules, which, as we trust, will cover the whole ground.

1. *Guano*, having in its composition from 4 to 8 per cent. of the *Carbonate of Ammonia*, (which being of a volatile nature will escape in a gaseous form, and be lost to the purposes of nutrition, unless placed beneath the soil, or fixed by some agent) should, in our opinion, always be ploughed in, to the full depth of the furrow.

2. *Guano*, may, when applied to wheat land, be strewed broadcast over the field, but should always be harrowed in, and the ground immediately rolled thereafter. The harrowing should be thorough, and plaster, say 1 bushel to the acre, or ground charcoal, say 20 bushels to the acre be combined with whatever quantity, say, from 200 to 400 lbs. per acre of Guano, to attract, condense, and give fixidity to such ammonia as may already be formed, and exert a similar agency, as the *urate, phosphate*, and *oxalate of ammonia*, which it contains, may from time to time, be converted into *carbonates*, by the action of heat and moisture.

3. *Guano* may be directly applied as a top-dressing, without incorporating any other substance with it, and it will be found to act efficiently and promptly as a fertilizer; but, because of the volatile nature of the ready formed ammonia, more or less of which is already present in it, its benefits will be less, both in the *present* and in the *future*, than when it may be combined with the agents named in the second rule.

4. *Guano* may be applied to all soils; sandy, and other porous soils, stand more in need of absorbing and fixing agents, than those of more tenacious textures, because, the action of the sun upon the former soils has the greater power, in bringing on and continuing the exhalations therefrom.

5. *Guano* may be applied as a top-dressing to grass lands, but should always be combined with one or more of the fixing principles named in No. 2, and should, also, be thoroughly harrowed in, and rolled afterwards. The better way, to reap the greater degree of permanent benefit, would be, to plough it in when the ground is being prepared to be set in grass.

6. *Guano* containing, within its elements, all that constitutes the elements of most of the vegetable families, except *potash*, may be said to be good for every description of crops. As potash, however, is absent from it, all soils to which it may be applied, wherein it may be presumed, or found upon actual analysis, that this mineral is not present, should receive a top-dressing of ashes, say from 50 to 100 bushels to the acre.

7. *Guano* will act best on lands which may contain the largest bodies of undecomposed vegetable matter, because such substances act of themselves as absorbents and detainers of the carbonate of ammonia, which may be formed, prevent to some extent the escape of that gas, and, consequently, preserve it for the sustenance of the plants.

8. All wheat fields to which guano may be applied, should, the succeeding spring, have clover seed sown thereon, at the rate of 12 or 16 lbs to the acre.

The latter will prove to be a most valuable auxiliary to the former, in advancing and securing the fertility of the lands.

9. If land be poor, it will require 400 lbs. of Guano to bring it up to a state of maximum fertility—lands *moderately good*, will take 300 lbs. to produce the same effect, while *really good* lands, will only require 200 lbs. per acre.

10. Wherever Lime may be applied at the same time with Guano, the Guano should be *first* sown broadcast and ploughed in, when the lime may be applied as a top-dressing and harrowed in. The two substances never should be mixed and ploughed in together, as the tendency of newly slacked lime, would operate to drive off the carbonate of ammonia, the great nutrient principle of *Guano*, and thus cause it to be lost to vegetation.

11. Genuine *Peruvian Guano*, contains 25 per cent. of the *Phosphate of Lime*, a substance identical with bone dust; the value, therefore, of Guano, cannot be too highly estimated, as that substance is an essential ingredient in the composition of all the members of the vegetable kingdom that have been appropriated to the uses of man, but little of it has ever been found as a mineral deposit, and the soil is annually being drained of that which it contained in its natural condition. If *Guano* contained no other element than this one—the *Phosphate of Lime*—it should be esteemed as an agricultural treasure.

12. *Guano*, applied to a turnip crop should always be ploughed in, whether mixed with other manure or not—the phosphate of lime and ammonia, which it contains, render it a valuable turnip manure. Its utility as such has been fully tested in England.

13. It will act as well on what is called *Lime-stone* land, as on any other, the lime contained in such soil, is in the carbonate or mild form, and cannot act upon the *Guano* except for good, while the latter comprises a form of lime—the *phosphate*—which does not exist in stone-lime, but which is all-important to almost every description of vegetable products.

13. *Guano* is well suited for Rye and Oats, as well as for wheat and corn.

14. A weak solution of Guano, say 1 lb. dissolved in 10 gallons of water, is excellent to encourage the growth and bloom of flowers, if applied two or three times a month. Before watering the flowers, the earth should be stirred with the hoe. In the preparation of flower beds it is an excellent manure—$\frac{2}{3}$ of a pound strewn broadcast, will be sufficient for a bed 4 feet wide by 12 feet long. It should be dug in.

GUANO ON LIMED LAND.

Our opinion is asked, whether *Guano* can be applied advantageously to a field on which 60 bushels of Lime to the acre was applied in February, 1847, and 40 bushels of bone dust, per acre, the succeeding month? It is further stated, that the field is now ploughed, with the view of setting it in Timothy.

Our opinion is, that there can be no question as to the advantage to result from the application of the Guano, under the circumstances of the case. The lime has been sufficiently long in the soil to have become *effete*, and cannot, therefore, exert any violent

action upon the already formed carbonate of ammonia, by driving it off. Should it accelerate the conversion of the *Sulphate* and *Oxalate of Ammonia* contained in the Guano, into *carbonates*, or in other words, give these forms a volatile character, we apprehend that the transformations will be so gradual, as not to operate disadvantageously.

We, however, would prefer that the Guano should be *ploughed in*, instead of being sown as a top-dressing. By the first mode, all the *ready formed* ammonia would be preserved in the soil, to perform its office, in feeding and urging forward the growth of the Timothy plants. By this mode of application, the Guano would be placed in a position in the soils most eligible to encourage the transformation of those forms of Ammonia, found in Guano, which are *not* volatile, into the volatile form, the one essential to be produced before its nutrient properties can be diversified and taken up by the roots of the plants. To bring about this change, heat and moisture are potential agents, and these can only be found beneath the soil under the most favorable circumstances.—The *Guano* being there placed, the superincumbent soil, with its decomposing and vegetable matter, serves as absorbents to arrest the volatile ammonia, as formed, and to keep it in store to be fed out as needed by the exigencies of the growing plants.—But if the Guano be used as a top-dressing, all its volatile parts, already made, and to be made, will, instead of going to the support of the plants, fly off into the air and be lost for all the purposes of vegetation. *It will be sufficient to plough it in to the depth of some three or four inches*, as by its own specific gravity, if placed that depth beneath the surface, it will ultimately find its way to the bottom of the earth which may have been upturned by the first ploughing.

We need not tell our inquirer, that his Timothy will be benefitted by the second ploughing which we recommend, as his intelligent mind will at once enable him to see, that ground intended for so lasting a crop as timothy, cannot be put in too good tilth —that such a crop requires the most perfect preparation of the soil.

The quantity of bone dust put upon the land of our inquirer, was sufficient to ensure a good crop of oats, under circumstances of a favorable season; but we are not surprised, that his crop, of the *present* season, proved a very "*ordinary*" one, as there has not been a season for the last twenty years less adapted to the oat-culture. He will have this consolation, however, that the bone dust applied in the spring of 1847, will effectively tell in each timothy crop during the period he may have his field in that grass, as the phosphates and sub-phosphates which are found in bones, are eminently conducive to the growth of the whole family of grasses, and to none more so than to this particular one.

☞See the proceedings of the Montgomery Co. (Md.) Agricultural Society, on another page.

APPLICATION OF BONE DUST, PLASTER, &c. RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS.

Spottsylvania Co., Va. August 9th, '47.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Mr. Editor:—I should be much obliged to you, if you would answer the following questions by letter, or in the next number of your paper.

1st.—Would you recommend Guano or Bone-dust for the wheat crop on a poor soil, composed of nearly equal portions of sand and clay, having chiefly in view the most economical improvement of the land?

2d.—The same in reference to the corn crop?

3d.—How should Guano be applied to these crops? If ploughed in, to what depth should it be turned under?

4th.—Is there any certain method of determining the quantity of guano, so that we may know when we are using a genuine article?

5.—Of whom may it be purchased with greater certainty of getting a good article?

I used a ton of Guano and 100 bushels of bone on my corn and oat crop last spring. On the oat crop, a mixture of these at the rate of 8 bushels of bone and 100 lbs. guano were applied broad-cast and harrowed in with the seed. One piece was dressed with guano alone at the rate of 200 lbs. to the acre. The experiment was made on poor land that would not have produced much more than seed. The oats came up badly and were so thin that I thought of ploughing them up early in May and putting the land in corn. The yield was about 15 bushels per acre. I used bone-dust on the corn crop—exhausted sandy soil, 15 bushels per acre. The crop does not appear to be much benefitted, though something better than the experimental lands left without dressing. The guano was applied to the corn in the hill. It was previously mixed with rich mould and plaster in the proportion of 4 of mould, ½ plaster and of 1 guano, and a gill put in the hill with the seed. The improvement in the corn is perceptible, but from present appearances I think the increase in the crop will not be more than from 1 to 2 barrels of corn to the acre; unless the land should be benefitted I shall not be remunerated by half for expense incurred. Yet I am not satisfied to give it up. Farming is a poor business on poor land, as is ours generally in this county, and we ought to be slow to abandon anything which holds out the least hope of benefitting our lands. I am inclined to think that the guano which I used was not genuine; it certainly was not so if any dependence is to be placed in some directions which I have seen in papers for testing its character —these directions were burning it upon a red hot shovel and the ashes if genuine will be white—if not, black—and again, put it in water and stir it well, let it settle and the deposite will show the quantity of the article, or rather whether it is mixed with sand. Guano which I have, seems to be largely adulterated with sand; not more than half is taken up in the water, and the deposite is gritty like sand.

Please let me hear from you and you will much oblige

Your ob't serv't,

D. M. WHARTON.

ANSWERS.

1.—We should prefer the Peruvian Guano to Bone-dust for manure on Wheat, for such lands as is described in question, having regard to both economy and efficiency.

2.—We should also prefer it to bone-dust for corn. It possesses all the elements to be found in bone-dust, besides several other substances of value which are not in bones—will act promptly and continue its benefits for years, say for a course of 4 years rotation, if connected with a clover culture, which it should be, and that is as long as should be expected.

3.—*Guano* should be ploughed in. Our reasons for this mode of application will be found on page 30, August number of our journal, to which we beg leave to refer our inquirer. As to the depth, we would say the ordinary depth to which other manures are ploughed in will answer for Guano.

4. 5.—Analysis is the only certain method of determining the quality of Guano. The *character* of the party from whom it may be purchased is the next best security of quality.

To improve land, all applications of manure should be made broadcast.

By our calculation, the quantity of *guano* applied, was a fraction less than 86 pounds per acre, and surely, if this inadequate quantity increases the product of corn 2 barrels per acre, our friend should have great faith in the efficacy of Guano. For *permanent* improvement of poor soil, 400 pounds would not be an excessive application—that quantity, we apprehend, would bring exhausted land up to its maximum capacity for production, while half the quantity would so far increase its yielding powers, as that any man could tell in a field, to a line, where it had been applied. We believe that 200 lbs. to the acre of genuine *Peruvian Guano*, applied to poor land, would increase the product more than 100 per cent. and that if followed by clover, lime and plaster, and a rotation of crops as it should be, that such land could be brought up to a state of fertility that would satisfy any one whose desires were graduated by any reasonable rules.

CHARCOAL—PLASTER—GUANO.

CHESTERTOWN, July 31, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

DEAR SIR:—When I gather my corn crop I will send you an accurate account of a very striking experiment with guano. I shall dress 25 acres of wheat with it this fall. Next year, I shall put a field in corn which was guanoed for wheat 3 years ago, and has been in grass for the last two years—then I shall know how long its effects may be expected to last.

In your recipes for compost you frequently mention ground charcoal as an important element. I wish you could tell me where it can be got. Some time ago, I induced a gentleman who owns a bark mill, to grind some, but he found it so poor a business that he abandoned it, after grinding some 25 bushels. The loss was more than 50 per cent. and the mill was choked with it, while the laborers were almost suffocated. Very respectfully, J. A. P.

ANSWER.

We know of no mill that grinds charcoal for agricultural purposes. There are establishments in Baltimore, at which it is prepared for medicinal purposes. It might be prepared sufficiently fine for agricultural purposes, by placing it on a barn floor, and by passing a heavy roller repeatedly over it, in which case the difficulty of the *dust* might be gotten rid of, by moistening the charcoal previously to passing the roller over it.

If our correspondent cannot conveniently supply himself with the pulverized charcoal, he has a most excellent substitute in *Plaster*, that acting as does the former, the only difference being, that the charcoal is a more powerful agent in attracting and condensing nitrogen than plaster, and having this advantage also, that being as nearly insoluble as any substance can be, it will continue its effects much longer in the soil. So far as *composts* are concerned, plaster is just as good as charcoal; so that one need not feel any disappointment at not being able to procure the latter, while the former is within his reach.

QUESTION IN PRACTICAL FARMING.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

SIR:—I have a lot of some twenty acres of land which is a heavy kind, and rather cold—it has been well ploughed and is now in corn. I desire to plant it in wheat this fall, but as I intend putting on about five bushels of bone-dust to the acre, (ten having already been added the last season) and also fifty bushels of lime to the acre as soon as the present crop of corn is off; I have some hesitation about the matter, as I am afraid that if the wheat is sown immediately after the lime is spread on, the seed will be entirely destroyed. I therefore write to enquire of you or some other practical farmer who may know something on this head from actual experience, whether the land now in corn can this fall be limed and used for an immediate wheat crop.

A. B.

ANSWER.

We take it for granted that our respected correspondent intends to *plough* his wheat in first, and then to apply his lime as a top-dressing. If we are right in this conjecture, he could not apply his lime in any stage, after having been slacked, that he need entertain any danger to his wheat crop. If his lime has been sufficiently long slacked to enable it to have assumed its *effete* or *carbonate* form, there is no possible mode in which he can apply it, in which it would operate otherwise than favorably to his land, as well as to his crop of wheat. If *fresh* slacked lime, were to be either ploughed or harrowed in *with the seed*, it might, from being immediately in contact with it, by the production of an excess of heat, interfere with its germination to a very *serious extent*. It would be best to slack the lime with water, and keep it a few weeks in a dry place before it may be wanted for use.

We should not think of ploughing in lime in any form with seed wheat, for the following reasons—*first*, because, from its specific gravity, its natural tendency is to sink in to the earth, and it should be

an object to keep it as near the surface as possible, in order that its benefit may be the more generally diffused through the entire inverted mass of soil, as the lime may become dissolved by each succeeding rain; *secondly*, because, we should not like to bring fresh lime, or that recently slacked, into direct contact with seed wheat, while in a state of germination; and, *thirdly*, because, if the lime were to be ploughed in to the bottom of the furrow, its correcting action would be lost to all the ferruginous matter, as oxides and sulphates, which might be intermingled with the superincumbent soil, upon which bodies it exerts a most wholesome influence, by transforming what would otherwise prove deleterious to vegetation, into healthful fertilizing substances. It will, therefore, appear obvious, that all applications of lime should be made as near the surface as possible, and hence, that it would be wrong to plough it in with the seed when first applied.

BIRD'S FOOT CLOVER.

Bel Voir, A. A. Co., Aug. 6th, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, I take the opportunity to write you briefly on the subject of the Bird foot clover, treated of in your April number.

A "Subscriber" asks for information about this plant, which is highly commended by "Arator," and I think you err in informing him that the seed cannot be obtained except in England or France. My own belief is that what is known on all our light lands as the "woolly headed" clover, is in reality the *slender bird's foot trefoil*, (*Lotus Angustissimus*) and that the misfortune of this very valuable improver is, that it is *not* necessary to bring its seed across the ocean. The same principle operating with regard to it, as in the case of some benevolent ladies of Virginia, who were found by John Randolph busily engaged in making up garments for the destitute Greeks, and were gravely reminded by him, casting his eyes at the time, upon some little ragged negroes in the yard, that the Greeks were at their door. Blessings and duties, as well as fashions, requiring a foreign air to commend them to our tastes.

On all light soils, of which I have any knowledge, capable of producing from two and a half to five barrels of corn per acre, this clover shows itself in the corn field late in August or in September. It will be readily known at this time by the leaf, as a species of clover, and takes entire possession of the ground. When the frost touches it, it assumes a scarlet hue. If undisturbed by the plow or otherwise, it comes forward rapidly in spring and is in full blossom in June, making a dense covering for the land. Upon land capable of producing perhaps not more than four barrels of corn per acre, I have seen it in June, following the crop of corn, full twenty inches deep, and so thick you could scarcely pull it apart sufficiently to see the ground.

It will surprise you probably, that a plant whose spontaneous growth, quick maturity, and valuable qualities adapt it peculiarly to a very large portion of our unimproved lands, and whose value has been attested by the experience of many, should be so little known and appreciated. This is owing, doubtless in a great measure, to the constant practice of plowing such lands for grain after the seed has germinated, and thus destroying the young plants. Such as germinate late in the season, make a poor growth and injure the character of the plant. My object in writing this, is to call attention to it and suggest such a mode of treatment, as will ensure the advantages it is capable of affording.

In the first place, when the corn is about waist high, give the field a dressing of gypsum. It will be by no means lost upon the corn, and will be especially useful in starting the bird foot clover. If the land *can* be improved without the manure, this dressing will ensure the germination of seed enough to stock the ground with plants early in September. Let these plants be by no means disturbed. In the spring give it another dressing of plaster, and keep your stock away from it. By the middle of June you have a covering for your land, thick enough for any purpose, and from twelve to twenty-four inches high, according to the strength of the land. Through this you will have perhaps in the fall a growth of weeds and crab-grass, and by the following spring the ground will be ready for any crop a judicious manager may think proper to put upon it, having enjoyed the full benefit to be derived from the bird foot clover in just half the time a crop of red clover would require. I have land which increased in one rotation, under such treatment, from two and a half to four barrels per acre, and which this year, with a light dressing of manure upon portions of it, promises a good crop of tobacco. I consider it needless, however, to bring further testimony to the value of this plant as an improver. The man who can make his land produce a covering for itself, need be at no loss, I think, in the way of improvement. It is the peculiar adaptation of a great deal of comparatively thin land to the production of red clover, and its power of thus making a covering for itself, which has brought many thousands of acres by the aid of plaster alone and judicious management to a high state of fertility. As the red clover is adapted to such soils, so the bird foot is suited to a lower grade of soils, and lays the foundation for improvement, where the other would be of no avail, and makes a luxuriant growth and thick covering where no other plant will, and adapting itself as well to the poor man's pocket as his land, it asks no expenditure for seed or cultivation. If the value of red clover as an improver is admitted, the value of this must be the more so, as being suited to circumstances of more difficulty and greater extent.

Leaving the brilliant and more admired operations of such improvers as Col. Capron and Mr. Stabler to the "mighty men of valor" in the improvement of agriculture, my humble aim in this communication is to lure in the path of improvement the faint-hearted and the weak—to show them something at least may be done "without money and without price." If a tithe of the benefits which might come from these suggestions is realised, I shall be more than compensated.

Yours, Respectfully,
N. B. WORTHINGTON.

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Note.—We intended to say, and so far expressed ourself, that the seed of the bird's foot clover was not to be found for sale in the stores of this country—and we still believe such to be the case. We are not aware of its being cultivated in any country except France, and there only on very light sandy soils,

where its ability for withstanding drought and hot suns make it available. We know that it does grow in similar soils in this country, and have seen it. Its long tap-roots give to it the capacity of enduring the absence of moisture, and on such soils we doubt not it would be found to be an improver, but there are other plants which yield more vegetable matter, that will grow on such lands, whose seed can be easily procured, and we are inclined to believe, they would be found more advantageous.

DROUGHT vs. DROUTH.

August 3d, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

Sir—An error occurs in a communication in your last No. to which my name is attached, about which I should not trouble you, but that it is a very common one, and therefore not likely to be attributed to a misprint or other accident. There is no such word in the language as "Drouth" which is there used for *Drought*, and I feel very confident, if you can turn to the manuscript, that you will find the error was not mine. If I am mistaken, I ask pardon for the trouble I give you, and beg to assure you that I am not ambitious of that democracy which cherishes malice to the King's English. Yours respectfully,

N. B. WORTHINGTON.

[We take pleasure in permitting the writer to correct the error in spelling, to which he calls our attention. We noticed it in reading the *proof*, but not having the manuscript before us, we thought that it might possibly have been written as we found it.—For our own part we have not yet been fashionable enough to spell "*drought*" in any other way than the one taught us in our youth, and have thus far resisted the innovation of the present day, of making the spelling conform to the too common pronunciation of "*drouth*."]

THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Dear Sir:—In the June No. of the Farmer we presented some general remarks upon the policy, expediency and practicability of rendering our miasmatic fountains not only innoxious, but the most valuable lands of our shore. Among other inducements adverted to was the Hygienic bearing it would have upon the climate of the peninsula. This point we propose now to canvass more in detail. I do not deem it necessary to adduce the history of Koino Miasmata to establish the fact, that low and marshy lands emit an exhalation deleterious to human health. This fact is so well authenticated and so familiar to every Eastern Shoreman of observation, as not to be controverted. That draining and drying those lands will destroy this poisonous quality is well established by actual experiment, and is as well authenticated as any other principle in agricultural philosophy. The Pontine marshes are usually cited as an illustration of this truth. This work (their draining) was commenced by Appius Claudius, and continued at interrupted intervals under Theodoric, Julius Cæsar, Augustus Cæsar, Trajan, and others, and ultimately completed under Pope Pius the VI. The exhalations from these marshes were very fatal, prior to the completion of this work, but when dry they were very productive, as well as innoxious. But it is unnecessary to go so far for instances to illustrate this truth, as instances are familiar (on smaller scales) to every Eastern Shoreman living in the more malarious portions of the shore. The instances of ruptured mill dams from freshets make impressions on the character of the health of their vicinity, which are forced on the attention of the mere casual observer. If ponds or dams are kept at a given height, they are not as liable to produce the effects of miasm as when gradually dried, exposing their muddy bottoms to the influence of the sun. But the most impression is made when the whole bottom is exposed at once, as in cases where the dam gives way. A town in our vicinity, of 80 inhabitants, is located 100 yards north of a dam of 30 or 40 acres; in the spring of '40 the dam was swept away by a freshet, and the bottom was exposed to the sun during the residue of the year. No one of the 80 inhabitants escaped unscathed, and 21 of the 80 died during the year—exceeding the highest fatality of New Orleans more than one-third. In this climate all lands that are long covered, or saturated with stagnant water and dried by the summer's sun, exhale miasm. An inspection would establish the fact that sections are more or less sickly, in a ratio with the proportion of this kind of soil. The actual quantity of this kind of waste land on the shore, or its relative proportion to the other lands is difficult to ascertain. They will vary on different farms from $\frac{1}{8}$ to 1-1000 part. I need not add that the physician is a frequent visitor to those of the greater quantity, and that his service in most instances are gratis, as they do not enjoy sufficient health to till the soil advantageously.

These facts being familiar to us all, is it not surpassing strange that there is not a general movement towards effecting the abolition of this deadly miasm from our shore? Even in a pecuniary view, we are neglecting our interest and duty, by suffering those rich bottoms to remain deadly and barren wastes; five years produce will, in most instances, double the amount expended in reclaiming them. But the greater motive—the improvement in the health of the climate, ought to be sufficient to awaken the energies of all whose days, and those of their offspring, are to be spent on this shore. Health is not only essential to a happy being here, but essential in the accumulation of fortune, the desideratum of our being's aim. I am convinced, that the average period of human life on the E. S. would be lengthened at least 20 years by a complete reclamation of all those lands which are susceptible of being reclaimed, in the manner before alluded to. The present average of human existence in the more sickly sections is not over 25 years; when three-score and ten is the divine estimate of the average of man's days.

As you are aware, the remarks here offered do not bear equally upon all parts of our shore, as some parts are as healthy as most other places in the same latitude. But all who are conversant with her entire sectional climate, will admit the correctness of my propositions. Respectfully, &c.

An Eastern Shoreman.

August 10th, 1847.

LAPLAND COWS.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Dear Sir:—With your permission, I would call the attention of the numerous readers of your valuable agricultural journal to a notice of the *Lapland Cow*, as given by Mr. E. J. Hooper, of Cincinnati, in his "Practical Farmer, Gardener and Housewife."

He says that the "Lapland cows are white, exceedingly beautiful, and but little larger than the English sucking calves, and yielding milk of a very superior quality, which becomes almost wholly cream, and that of the most delicious sweetness. Little more food than what would be necessary for a sheep or goat, which the kitchen refuse of some families chiefly supply, would support one of them. They would thus be of great value distributed in towns, and for the poor in country places, being better able to feed from the short grass of the commons. An importation of these would be important in many respects."

If, while a number of our enterprising and patriotic citizens are engaged in the importation of the Alpaca sheep from South America, others of a kindred spirit were to form an association for importing cattle of the above description from Lapland, we think that an important and lasting benefit to the country would be the result. J. P.

Calvert Co., Md., July 10, 1847.

THE "FARMER"—THE BOMMER METHOD —ETRURIAN WHEAT.

Egypt, Pittsboro', N. C., Aug. 13, '47.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

I write you, that, if an opportunity affords, to send me 5 bushels of the Mediterranean wheat, and I wish you to send me two more of the Maryland plows, such as you sent me four of some time ago.

Your August number of the Farmer, I am in receipt of, and am better pleased with its contents, than any of your numbers of the present year—it contains valuable matter for the farmer, and it is well told—you have now able pens at work, and it ought to be in the hands of every farmer, that can read. Nearly all of my acquaintances have dropped the use of Bommer's Method of making manure—they say it does not come up to what it promises—but the fault is in them—they do not follow his directions—it succeeds admirably with me; I farm on the three shift system—corn, oats and wheat—or let my land lay out for two years—I have, in tending my thinnest land this year, manured with manure made by Bommer's method, and there never was such a crop on the farm since I owned it. I was conversing with one of the wealthiest and best farmers of our State, the other day, relative to making Bommer Manure—he observed, he tried it and did not succeed in rotting the manure in time—I asked him if he used the ley recommended by Bommer, in his work—he said no—he merely put it up in a kiln and spread lime and litter alternately—Many valuable improvements are laid aside from the same cause, not following the directions. I shall commence making of it soon, while the weather is warm—I have no doubt of its value, if properly managed. I sowed my Etrurian wheat, on my common land, and have threshed out 75 bushels from the 5 bushels sowed—it is a most beautiful wheat and the largest grains I ever saw—the heads were very long, many fully 6 inches long—it is about as late as the golden chaff. I am well pleased with it every way.

Yours, Respectfully,
PETER EVANS.

DUMAS' POUDRETTE—MR. PELL'S WHEAT COMPOST.

We publish the following communication in the hope that it may meet the eye of the gentlemen referred to in it, and that they may feel themselves called upon to communicate through our columns the information sought for.

West River, A. A. Co., Md., Aug. 19, '47.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Dear Sir:—Your kind attention to my former inquiries, emboldens me to make a few more. In the American Farmer, Vol. 1. No. 8. page 231, Dr. Muse speaks of a "poudrette prepared by a method of Dumas;" this must be invaluable to us who plant tobacco—I have searched all my agricultural works, but can learn nothing about it—can you not find it out for us, and publish it in your Farmer?

Again, in Vol. 1, No. 11, page 330, a Mr. Pell has an essay on manures, but he does not tell us quite enough: he says, "cereal grains, &c. require eleven chemical substances, which he mixes with rotten straw for a compost for wheat"—but how does he get these substances and in what quantities? he says, at a cost of 50 cents he raised 78½ bushels of wheat on worn out land—To tell us so much and no more is cruel—can you not learn the *entire* matter, and give us a chance here to get out of debt? If you can, I am sure I shall be your debtor—I would have been glad to have known more about that picket fence, machine, and cost of it, and right to use it. I am trying to obtain for you some subscribers, and believe I have induced 2 or 3 to take the Farmer, but I find that there is a great objection to book-farming, as a consequence no one spends his money in the purchase of lime, ashes or guano—they are content to do as their fathers did, and think they have an excellent crop, if they get 10 bushels of wheat per acre—the land if moderately improved would give three fold. Respectfully, yours,

J. B. OWENS.

DUMAS' PROCESS OF MAKING POUDRETTE.

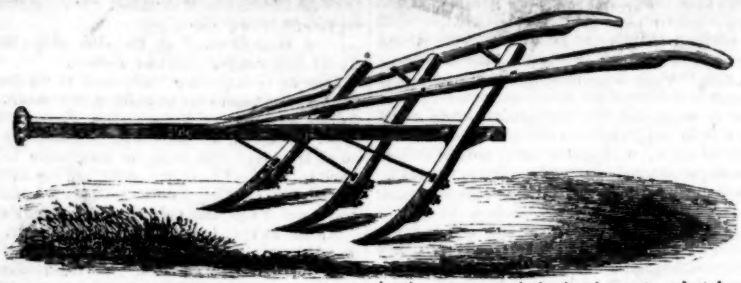
We regret that we have no immediate means of informing our correspondent how Poudrette is made after the plan of Mr. Dumas; but we think we can put him in the way of making a very excellent *substitute* for it, and we should be pleased if he, and others, would try the experiment upon an *acre* of the land which he and they may devote to wheat culture the present season. Our plan is not expensive, and its utility can be as well tested upon *one acre* as upon a hundred. It is this:

Take 40 bushels of mould from the woods,
5 bushels of ashes, leached or unleached,
5 bushels of Bone dust,
1 bushel of Plaster,

Incorporate the whole well together, by shoveling it over until the mass is thoroughly mixed. Then moisten the heap gradually, with 30 gallons of human urine; shovel the whole over until the entire compost is saturated with the urine, then throw the whole into a conic pile and let it remain for a week or two, when it may be spread over an acre sowed in wheat, as soon as that shall have been ploughed in; to be finished by harrowing.

We have no doubt that the above compost, or if you please to call it poudrette, would increase the product of wheat a hundred per cent. upon lands usually appropriated to wheat culture—nor do we doubt that it would so far improve the soil as to answer, without any other manure, through a four years' course of rotation.

A CULTIVATOR.



Montevideo, near Darnestown, Montgomery Co., Md.
August 13th, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

SIR:—Having seen several representations of Cultivators, in the late numbers of the American Farmer and Cultivator, I am induced at the solicitation of a friend, who drafted the enclosed little sketch, to furnish it to you for publication, if you deem it worthy of noticing. I have been farming twenty-five years, and have never used a Cultivator, because I found the same objection to all that I have seen—they operated too superficially, and were liable to clog or choke where the land was at all grassy—I have used single and double shovel, and small bar shovel plows, both for working corn and seeding grain, but my objections to each were, that they left the land too open, rendering it more liable to wash, and the grain to be thrown out by the frost. These several objections suggested the implement, a sketch of which is sent, and which I have found upon trial to answer my most sanguine expectations. The length of the legs and the space between, admit the free passage of stones, clods, grass, or any other obstacle, and it may be regulated by the clevis to work to any depth, leaving the land as smooth as if harrowed. The points are what are called Bull Tongue, made of ¾ inch iron, 3 inches wide and drawn to a point—they should be hardened, as some Smiths have a recipe for, or they should be steeled. The braces have a tap on either side of the leg, which keeps it in place, and the clevis has three holes to regulate the depth. Should any approve of the plan and desire a more full description, it will be cheerfully furnished, through your very much improved, and highly valuable agricultural paper.

Yours, very respectfully,
JOHN P. C. PETER.

DEBATE ON THE PROFITS OF FARMING.

AN INTERESTING ARTICLE FOR FARMERS.

Amatuers may engage in agriculture for the *poetry* of it; but most of those who follow the business for a livelihood, are under the necessity of making its *profits* the primary object. There is an impression, more or less prevalent, that farming is in general less profitable than most other occupations. We will not undertake to say how far this impression is founded in fact; but it will be obvious to those who examine the subject, that from the loose manner in which accounts of farming operations are generally kept, the actual profit or loss can hardly ever be determined with anything like accuracy.

Believing that our remarks which tend to show how the grand object of farming can be best attained, will be read with interest and advantage, we submit the following synopsis of a discussion on the "Profits of Farming," which took place at the Agricultural Meetings held at the State House in Boston during the last winter.—The reports of the discussion, as published in several of the Boston papers, were given in considerable detail; but we have only attempted to preserve the substance.

Mr. SHELDON, of Wilmington, said that though it was sometimes denied that there was any profit in farming, he thought there was no business which gave a better profit. Nine farmers out of ten contrived, even without any system, to *get along;* and there was no other business that would give a man a living with so little system as most farmers practised. It was true that men of capital often failed; but it was because they farmed to suit their *taste and fancy,* and not for dollars and cents.

Mr. D. W. LINCOLN, of Worcester, did not agree with Mr. Sheldon as to the profits of farming. He believed that a day laborer, who should let himself to a farmer, would make more money than the farmer who hired him; and would, in ten years time, be almost able to buy out the farmer for whom he had been laboring, with the very wages paid to him. It was the common error of agricultural writers to exaggerate. He often heard of raising one hundred bushels of corn on an acre. He would not say that this could not be done; but he would gladly go one hundred miles to see it.

Mr. PETERS, of Westborough, thought that there must be profit in farming. He had succeeded in bringing up a family of eight children on the profits of half of his father's farm. He believed that there was a fair profit to be made by raising corn at 75 cents a bushel, even if you paid $12 or $15 a month for labor. He had got 80 bushels from one acre, and could cultivate it for about $20 an acre.

Hon. Mr. DENNY could not agree to the proposition that all a farmer could get was a mere living. He thought if we were to take two thousand young men; let one half of them become farmers, and let the other half devote themselves to merchandize, in twenty years it would be found that the farmers had made the most money. He insisted that if equal capital, equal skill, and equal industry, were employed in farming as in trade, farming would give the most profit. But farmers do not work so hard as merchants and manufacturers. More mind is requisite to manage a farm well than to perform the usual kinds of mechanical labor.

Lieut. Gov. REED deprecated the practice of young men from the country crowding into the city. It was the disposition of the times—and a very bad

disposition it was—not only to get rich, but to *make haste* to be rich. Farming was not the business to get rich by; but if happiness was an object, there was no business so well adapted to promote this as farming. Taste could not be much gratified by common farmers. They must be contented with a good living profit.

Major B. WHEELER, of Farmingham, had long thought farming the pleasantest, and on the whole, the most profitable business that is followed. He had been bred a mechanic; he then engaged in trade, was afterwards concerned in manufacturing; and now he attends to farming. Many years ago he purchased a farm in Farmingham for about $10,000 — He had leased it for three years at the halves. The tenant returned $800 per annum for his share, and the farm was well treated. He spoke of the profits which had been derived from improving bog lands, and said that Mr. Wetherbee, of Marlborough, had 15 acres of this kind of land which produced last year 60 tons of hay—or four tons to the acre. He spoke of education, as connected with the subject of profitable farming. He thought farmers' boys had not generally a proper kind of education.—They work, but they are led along without being required to think. If their minds could be engaged in the business they would like it.

Hon. Mr. CLARK, of Walpole, said that 25 per ct. clear profit had been made by bringing cheap lands into good grass. He had land that cost him ten dollars per acre. He had cleared twenty-five per cent. on this, though he hired all the labor. From 65 square rods of bog land, which he had brought into English grass, he cut over 3,900 lbs. of hay in 1845. And this hay was then worth forty-four dollars and odd cents, at the market price in Walpole. The average price of hay in his region was $18 per ton.—He used ashes as manure on his grass land, and thought those unleached were worth 12½ cts. per bushel. He applied them as soon as the snow is off in spring. They kill out couch or witch grass (?) and induce the growth of the clover and other grasses. In Norfolk county, land set in fruit trees would pay a profit of twenty-five per cent. Some of his neighbors had got into the peach business and made 100 per cent. One acre set in peach trees yielded more than $200 last year.

Mr. BROOKS, of Princeton, said in answer to an inquiry, that he had reclaimed some of his rocky pasture land at a cost of $100 per acre, and was paid for it in a few years in the crop of hay.

Hon. Mr. CALHOUN thought if we were to compare the whole profits of farming with the profits derived from other pursuits, it would be found that farmers on the whole succeed best—let 100 men go into a city and trade; let 100 men go to farming, and at the end of 20 years the 100 farmers will be worth the most money. It is ascertained that of 100 merchants who had done business on Long Wharf, more than ninety became insolvent. In examining the condition of 1000 men who had accounts at a bank, it appeared that only six became independent. These are facts grounded on the most thorough examination. To take a general view of the subject, out of 100 estates at the probate court, in Boston, ninety were insolvent. These are facts to be put down by the side of farming. He had found that systematic, prudent, and diligent farmers always succeed. Mr. Brooks had said that fifteen per cent. might be realized from farming capital.—He (Mr. C.) believed it might in many cases be done by farming *intelligently*. He had wondered that farmers generally could get along so well as they actually do in their careless mode of farming. For himself, he had regained his own health by farming. The fresh open air had restored him—one consideration that should have much weight. It had been truly stated by his venerable friend from Farmingham, Major Wheeler, that this business naturally leads the mind to contemplation, and to gratitude to the Ruler of the Universe, to whom farmers should look for a blessing on their labors. No occupation so directly leads the mind to reflection on the works of creation. He thought we needed a better system of education for farmers. They should know something of the sciences on which agriculture rests; and science should be brought down so as to be clearly understood, in order to be useful. Minds now run to waste; we quit school and are then permitted to think of nothing but hard work.

Hon. Mr. DENNY said that he had examined into the statement of 97 failing out of 100 engaged in trade, and he believed it was correct. He found that out of 1112 cases of insolvency in this State, during 11 months, only 14 were called farmers; and he had examined as to a part of these, and found that they did not attend strictly to farming. One was a lazy man, another a stage owner, and a third *no man at all*. Yet young men rush to the city to acquire wealth!

Capt. BENJAMIN PORTER, of Danvers, said that out of one hundred farmers in the circle of his acquaintance in Essex county, there had not been a failure for 40 years. He had farmed and traded, and farmed again. He had been in debt and lain awake many a night to contrive how to take up his notes given in trade. He lost his health, but recovered it on his farm. He bought a farm that had been neglected and worn-out, for $5,500. It had numerous fruit trees, but they bore no fruit. He commenced by plowing and cross plowing among the trees—bought yearly $100 worth of manure, and the third year had $793 worth of apples. He had also made money by swine. He had a sow that brought nine pigs. When these were sold, (age not stated), they brought him $253. He cited the instance of the Howe farm, on the Beverly town line, which during the last forty years, had been leased to six different men in turn, and all of them had made money on it by having half the proceeds.—They went to the farm poor, but several of them made money enough by the profits of farming to buy themselves good farms.

Hon. Mr. RUSSELL, of Princeton, said that he let a farm worth $3,000 to a young man, and he paid the rent—$150, or five per cent. on the investment—supported his family, and laid up $100 a year. He had seven daughters, and he brought them all up well educated. He left the farm in a good state. The Gill farm in Princeton, 600 acres, was rented for a number of years. The lessee retired with a handsome property.

Mr. CLARY, of Conway, spoke of the profitable corn crops which had been raised by some of the members of an agricultural association, or farmers' club, formed in the town to which he belonged. The society chose a committee who examined the lots offered, (ten in number,) measuring two rods of each, and from this made their estimate of yield per acre. The yield of the ten lots was as follows: 134, 132, 111, 110, 95, 92, 90, 86, 76 bushels.

The corn was measured in October, and would probably shrink considerably. The land on which it grew was not naturally rich. It was dressed with

30 or 40 loads of sheep manure to the acre—a part being spread and ploughed in, and the remainder put in the hill. The corn was planted in hills three to three and a half feet apart, four stalks to the hill.

Major B. WHEELER, of Farmingham, said a townsman of his, Mr. Edmunds, had very recently stated to him, that seven years ago, he bought a farm of 74 acres for $2,250. He sold off ten acres and a lot of standing wood for $1,000, leaving his purchase at $1,250. From these 64 acres he sold produce last year to the amount of $700, and he hired but eight days' labor. His own labor, therefore, amounted to more than $600, after paying labor hired and the interest on his capital.

Mr. PARKER, of Sunbury, formerly president of the Middlesex Agricultural Society, said, when he was a boy he thought farming was not good enough for him, and he engaged in trade.—He lost his health in this business, and he bought a poor farm because it was in his way. He gave $2,000 for it. The former owner had cut but two tons of hay on it, and this made the cattle shed tears to eat it. Now he cuts forty tons, beside the grain and other produce It may be made to cut 100 tons. The land cost 17 dollars per acre; a number of the acres would now bring $100 each. There were two acres of bog on the farm, which he offered to sell for $25. Finding no purchaser, he employed two Irishmen to drain it, which they did thoroughly in a day.—He found the bog to be composed of peat, and since that time, he had cut and used in his paper factory 200 cords of this peat, by which he made a saving of five hundred dollars in fuel. It cost only a dollar a cord to cut and dry the peat. He thought farmers did not work as hard as mechanics and manufacturers. Some will sit still all winter and leave their wood uncut for summer, and are then obliged to quit haying to *make the pot boil*. Money could be made by farming, if the farms were attended to.

Mr. BROOKS, of Princeton, said his experience in farming was similar to that of Mr. Parker. He went on his farm about twenty years ago, at which time he could only winter six head of cattle. He now winters thirty head of cattle, two horses, and two colts, from the products of the same land.

Mr. WHEELER offered a resolution in regard to introducing instruction in the science of agriculture into colleges and seminaries of learning.

Hon. B. V. FRENCH, of Braintree, agreed that we wanted more knowledge on agriculture, but he doubted whether we could obtain it from *professors*. Instructors must be practical men. A pattern or experimental farm, where boys could get an education, and also a practical knowledge of farming, would be useful. By properly dividing their time, they might enjoy more health and gain more knowledge than they now do, when books only are the means of information. Students who are conversant with nothing but books, become feeble and emaciated. The lads in the city who have nothing to do but to acquire lessons from books, are outdone by young men who are bred in the country, and are used to a more active life. No profession required so sound a head as farming. As to profits, it was difficult to form an accurate estimate. So far as the land was made better, it was rather a matter of opinion. People estimate improvements differently. Many of the calculations of annual profits, too, are vague and unsatisfactory. Some of his own neighbors, who had done no other business through life, and had but very little to begin with, had accumulated pretty good fortunes; that is, say $15,000 each. They are now quite advanced in years, have been moderate workers, and have lived prudently.

Mr. JENKS, of Boston, thought the importance of a proper education, as bearing on the success of farming, could not be too highly estimated. The difference between those mechanics who come here from Europe with a proper education, and others, is great. He thought the great improvement which has been made in plows, was the result of scientific investigation.. He had heard of a man who made a profit by farming with the aid of books alone, without any practical education. He was guided by science only.

VALUE OF TALBOT COUNTY LAND.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

SIR:—In your last number, I observe with pleasure, a statement of the *average* value of lands in several of the counties of this State—those of Talbot being set down at 16 80-100 dollars—a respectable rank.

It occurs to me that it may not be much amiss to give you an account of actual sales of five small tracts of land in this (St. Michael's) district, within a few weeks past—such lands when known to be in the market, soon find purchasers. This account may not be an unsuitable appendix to the "Report on Bay-side Farming," which appeared in your June number—the lands lying in the heart of the region therein described—viz:

106	acres at	50	dollars,	$5,300
96	"	35	"	3.360
150	"	40	"	6.000
223	"	50	"	11,150
155	"	30 70 100		4,758
				$30,568

The improvements on these farms are but moderate, and the lands far from being the best in the neighborhood; but they are well situated, each being on *navigable water, small*, and (at *home*) considered *healthy*.

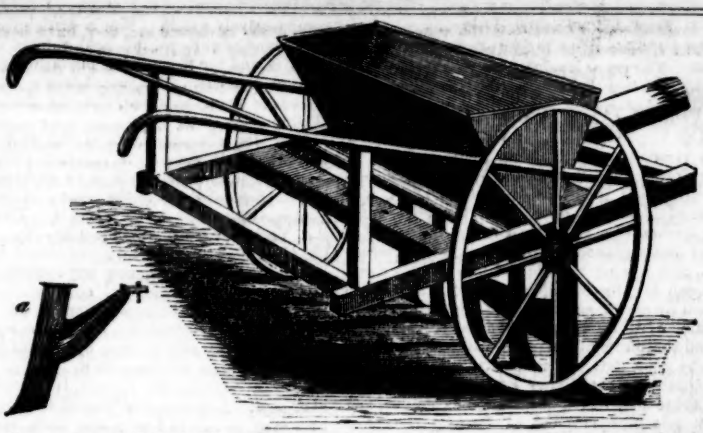
Your ob't serv't
CORN PLANTER.

Talbot co., Eastern Shore, Md., Aug 6, 1847.

LARGE FLEECE.—Little Queen Anne district is hard to beat. It furnishes the best Mutton—the largest fleeces of Wool—heavy yields of Wheat—receives high honors at Agricultural Fairs—and supplies Presidents of "proper dimensions" for State Conventions—vide the choice of Col. DUCKETT and Col. W. W. W. BOWIE, to preside over the recent Gubernatorial Conventions.

But to the fleece:—We are told by a gentleman who saw the Wool taken from the Sheep and weighed, that *William D. Clagett, Esq.*, of the above district, at a late shearing, took from one sheep 13¾ lbs. —from three others 35½ lbs., and from his flock of twenty sheep, *one hundred and eighty-nine pounds!* They are half Bakewell, bred from a Ram bought by Col. DUCKETT from Mr. LAW of Baltimore, and imported by R. HOFFMAN and JNO. S. SKINNER.—*ib.*

GEORGIA WHEAT.—*Mr Gerome Clarke* has laid upon our table a sample of Georgia Wheat, grown in Monroe county, and consigned to him by Mr. *Daniel Sanford*. The lot was received and sold on the 28th ult. to a mercantile house in this city at $1,50 per bushel, to be shipped to Boston. Mr. Clark thinks that this wheat will compare favorably with the best Genesee, and it certainly looks remarkably fine. We have no doubt that Georgia is destined at no distant day to become one of the largest wheat growing States in the Union.—*Sav. Rep.*



THE above figure represents Gatling's Wheat Drilling Machine, which as regards simplicity and effect, has no equal in this country. It performs the triple work of drilling, sowing, and covering, by the same movement; thereby saving much time and labor to the farmer. It will no doubt be the means of entirely changing the mode of seeding wheat in this country, as its economy of grain, ground and time, will every where recommend it in place of the broadcast system. This machine has been in use two seasons, and wherever it has been introduced, has given entire satisfaction. It is cheap and simple in its construction, easy to be managed, not burthensome to the hand or horse, performs the work for which intended in a much better manner than any other way and with far greater despatch. We annex one certificate which is the *substance* of about twenty others in our possession. Our price is $25 to $30 each.

R. SINCLAIR, Jr. & Co.
62 Light-st., Baltimore.

CERTIFICATE.

CANAL DOVER, Ohio, Aug. 28, 1846.

"*Mr. Gatling—Dear Sir:*—Having used your patent Wheat Drill in putting in part of my Wheat crop last fall. I am so well pleased with the result that I have determined to put in my entire crop, this fall, in that way. The advantages of drill over the usual mode, by broad-cast, are decidedly in favor of the former. There is a saving in time and seed, and the wheat is put in more even, at a proper depth, and is all covered with earth. The crop, moreover, is less liable to those diseases to which it is subject about the time of ripening, viz:—Rust, Scab, &c. In short I look upon it as one of the greatest improvements in the culture of wheat in modern times, and I am well satisfied that all that is required to introduce the machine into general use among the *grain* growing farmers, is a fair and unprejudiced trial.

Yours Respectfully,
JOSEPH SLINGLUFF.

REASONS FOR AND ADVANTAGES OF DRILLING.

Dr. Fothergill says: "Of our modern improvements, the introduction of *drill husbandry* has generally been allowed to be the most important."—*Com. Board of Agriculture*, vol. 4, p. 150.

The editor of the "American Agriculturist" observes: "We have over and over again recommended that wheat should be sown in drills; for one gets a better crop, and it is not so liable to rust. We have usually recommended that the drills should be from six to twelve inches apart."

A writer in the "Western Farmer and Gardener" remarks, that "many experiments have been made in Pennsylvania, and other sections of the country, as to the relative advantages of planting wheat in drills, and sowing broad cast, and in every instance the result has been in favor of the drill from five to eight bushels per acre."

Some of the reasons for drilling wheat are, 1st. The seed is deposited with great regularity, and at a proper depth. The "Albany Cultivator" says, "Wheat has two sets of roots—one forming at the seed, and the other near the surface. If the distance from the seed to the surface be too great, the connecting stem between the two roots will not be strong enough for the vigor of the plants. If the seed is too shallow, the two sets of roots are crowded too much together, and the space from which they receive nourishment is diminished."

2d. When deposited, it is covered and kept from the birds, &c. It is estimated generally, that at least one peck of seed to the acre is lost by the broad-cast system.

3d. It is not so liable to winter kill. "The drill raises ridges on each side of the row. These ridges crumble down by the action of the frost, and thus cover and nourish the young plants and prevent them from being thrown out by freezing and thawing, by which more wheat is lost in the United States than by all other causes combined."—*Genesee Farmer, and Farmer's Cyclopedia.*

4th. The roots being deep, it is manifestly not so liable to injury by the drouth.

5th. "It is not liable to rust," says Ellsworth's Report.

6th. It is not so liable to lodge. "That wheat does not lodge by reason of its *weight*, was proved by my whole crop last harvest, and particularly by the measured acre, the ears of which, though prodigiously large and heavy, were none of them lodged on the ground."—*Jethro Tull*, p. 288.

7th. By the admission of the sun and air between the rows," says the same writer, "a stronger and healthier plant is produced, and of course a heavier crop. Leaves are the parts or bowels of a plant which perform the same office to sap that the lungs do to blood. They purify and cleanse it. Mr. Papin shows that air will pass in at the leaves and out through the plants at the roots—but water will not pass in at the leaves. And, if the leaves have no air, the plant will die; but if the leaves have air, though the root remain in water [*in vacuo*,] the plant will live and grow."

"This is the reason," says the Farmer's Cyclopedia, "why the portions of the field most exposed to the wind is always of the most luxurious growth, and why many skilful farmers drill their wheat, so that the most prevalent winds may blow along the rows and not across them; and why crops prosper better in moderately windy weather, than in calm.

8th. By drilling, the farmer is enabled to have heavy crops on light land. Mr. Binns, in his report, (Far. Cyclopedia,) affirms, "that fifty-six bushels to the acre have been raised upon the light soils of Norfolk."

9th. It economises seed. "A gentleman of Lord Macartny's Embassy to China, calculated that the saving of seed alone in China, (where the drill system is invariably adopted,) would be sufficient to maintain all the subjects of Great Britain.

10th. It saves time, which is money. In the report of Lord John Russel, and others, to parliament, they say: "The drill lessens labor, lessens the quantity of seed and increases the crop."

Experiments in Drilling.—"Mr. Cook," says the Farmer's Companion, (England) "found that on *some very poor* land the drill afforded 16 bushels three pecks per acre—the broad cast only 6 bushels."

"A gentleman drilled 15 acres 9 inches apart, and sowed 15 acres broadcast. The latter was lodged and stained, and saved with great difficulty. The former was not lodged at all. The produce of grain on the drill was 10 to 15 bushels more in quantity, and one shilling per bushel better in quality.

"Dr. Noble, of the State of Delaware, drilled about 27 acres, and sowed broadcast 7 acres. The drilled produced from 35 to 40 bushels per acre; and the broadcast only 27½ bushels.—*Farmer's Cabinet*, 1845.

A subscriber to the American Agriculturist, 1846, tried last year the relative advantages of drilling and sowing wheat broad cast, and gives the result as follows. When the wheat was ripe I reaped the drilled patch by itself, and an equal space of ground of the sowed wheat adjoining. The two lots were thrashed, cleaned and weighed separately; and although I have not the note to the exact amount of wheat, quantity of ground, &c., yet I perfectly remember that the result was in favor of the drilled wheat 10 bushels per acre; it being at the rate of nearly 37 bushels, and the sown wheat 27 bushels per acre. The heads on the drilled part were *larger*, the straw *stouter and heavier*, and the grain *plumper*."

From Hill's Farmer's Visiter.

COL. CAPRON'S FARM AGAIN!

Washington, D. C. July 12, 1847.

To the Editor.

In the Visiter for May, I notice an interesting article by Col. Capron, of Laurel Factory, Maryland, upon the renovation of worn-out lands. Your introductory remarks to that article are just, and perhaps about all that may be said without a personal inspection of the farm in question. Having recently had the pleasure of a short visit to the farm, and a somewhat hasty glance of the stock, crops, buildings, &c., and having symptoms of that deplorable malady upon me, the *cacoethes scribendi*, I will try to abate them by giving an account of what I saw.

The fame of Col. Capron's good deeds has spread far beyond the limits of the middle States, as he will observe by your notice of this article, when I send him the number of the Visiter which contains it.

I had frequently heard of his good examples, and of his successful operations in farming, and had seen his fine mule teams, poultry, &c. at the Annual Fairs at Marlboro', Prince George's County, and consequently felt a strong desire to see his premises and appearances at home.

Accordingly, on Saturday last, our mutual friend, James Adams, Esq., cashier of the Bank of Washington, and a Yankee of the first water, and myself, jumped into the cars at 12, noon, and in an hour arrived at Laurel Factory, about half the distance from this city to Baltimore. The location is romantic and New England like. The Pautuxent, at that time a turbid, yellowish-colored stream, flows through a deep valley with precipitate hills on either side; and a few noble specimens of the primeval forest, that doubtless number hundreds of years in their ages, give the whole a picturesque and inviting appearance.—After "presenting our credentials," we were invited, with a heartiness of welcome and an easy affability which I understand distinguish Col. Capron, to his mansion and to dinner.

Soon after arriving it commenced raining—it being a continuation of the storm of the previous day, and the first considerable rain that had fallen in this section of the country since the 25th of March. While taking a brief look at the Factory, the cattle and sheep were driven from the pasture, so that we might see them without travelling through the wet grass. Col. C. has on his farm about seventy head of neat cattle—twenty-five mules, and ten or twelve carriage and saddle horses, besides numbers of others belonging to different individuals, and kept for various periods on the place. The farm consists of twelve hundred acres, about half of which is under cultivation, and at the time of his entering upon it ten years ago, presented quite as forbidden and uncouth an appearance as you have described them.—The stock is the best of its kind—each breed being kept pure—and it is interesting to observe the marked difference, not only in the color and physiognomy, but in the conformation of animals, natives of the same island, and often of counties almost contiguous to each other. Thus the head of the North Devon "ox is small, singularly so, relatively to the bulk of the animal, yet it has a striking breadth of forehead. It is clean and free from flesh about the jaws. The eye is very prominent, and the animal has a pleasing vivacity of countenance plainly distinguishing it from other breeds. Its neck is long and thin, and there is a peculiar rising of the forehead, reminding us not a little of the blood-horse." The "cow is comparatively small. She is distinguished for her full, round, clear eye, the gold colored circle round the eye, and the same color prevailing on the inside skin of the ear. The countenance cheerful—the jaws free from thickness, and the throat free from dewlap."

Now the characteristics of the Short Horns, or Durhams, are almost the reverse of the above description. The difference is so striking, that when it is once pointed out to the notice of the most casual observer he will never forget it. Then there are the Yorkshire—the Lincolnshire—the Alderney—the Galloway, and our own native breeds, which differ nearly or quite as much, but each having its own peculiar characteristics and conformation. A portion of Col. Capron's cows were from New York, were very fine specimens, and show what may be done with our native stock by careful breeding and attention. His Durham bull, which weighs two thousand four hundred pounds, is the finest animal I ever saw. A team consisting of twenty-four mules harnessed in line as I once saw them, and ranging in weight from 11 to 14 hundred pounds each, as I should judge, probably cannot be equalled in the country. A few Southdown sheep and lambs were fine specimens, but are kept more for the convenience of their flesh than for the profit of their wool. His carriage and saddle horses are also of the best breeds, and exhibit the judgment and skill of their owner in their fine proportions and trainings. A few days previous to my visit he unfortunately lost his best horse by his rolling into a spring and breaking his back. He probably would not have sold him from his carriage for $1000.

It is not my purpose to give the details of Col. Capron's management of his farm affairs. My observation was too slight and hurried to enable me to do this correctly if I desired it. But I do wish, so far as in my power, and with the aid of your excellent Visitor, to attract the public attention to the wonderful improvements he has wrought in the late sterile fields around him, and to how he has enlivened them by introducing a breed of animals as unlike the native Marylander as though he had introduced the South American Alpaca, or the hump-shouldered Nagores from the border of the Bichaneer desert.

His farm did not appear as it would under more favorable circumstances. The drought had been severe, and the season unusually cold and backward. Yet his wheat crop was good, averaging about thirty bushels to the acre, and was all housed in the true New England manner. He cuts it with one of Hussey's patent reaping machines, at the rate of eighteen or twenty acres per day, with the aid of two mules and a man. His grass crop will be rather light; though the rain which was falling while we were looking at the fields will somewhat increase the crop still uncut. He will house at least one hundred tons; which, after adding a little salt, will yield a fragrance far surpassing all the cosmetics of the shops. I saw the fields which he has renovated, and of which he has given an account. After cutting a fair crop of grass from them in the midst of this dry season, the clover was still so high that cattle might feed in it "up to the eyes."

A perfect system controls every department—and whatever point you approach you find there unmistakable evidences that the "master is at home." His barns, sheds, feed rooms, stalls, hovels, and everything pertaining to the convenience of the manager or the comfort of the creature, are all thoroughly finished, and exhibit a correct taste and judgment

in their arrangement and construction. His tool-house is a nonpareil in "those parts," and after once beholding its contents, I trust no Marylander will ever after be found "loading manure with his own hands."

His dwelling is surrounded by a beautiful lawn, filled with shade trees and shrubbery. Inside, it is well-finished and convenient, and is graced and adorned by his accomplished lady and several pretty children. There are no indications of that aristocratic pride which has somewhat distinguished southern gentlemen, but which has been found too poor a plant to sustain itself, even on a good soil. There are all around him not only evidences of what "mind among the spindles" can do, but also in the substantial abodes of comfort which surround him—the smiling and profitable fields, the good roads and fences, the churches, schools and lecture-room. In short, he is "monarch of all he surveys," or nearly so; but exercises his power with such an even hand—with such justice and rare appreciation of the condition and rights of others, that they scarcely feel that they are governed at all.

I have not attempted to give you the details of his system and practices of farming. That may better be done by your own graphic pen after you have strolled over his broad acres, and held conversation with him.

It is interesting to notice the different conclusions which individuals come to with regard to the best kinds of stock. Col. Capron gives the decided preference to the Durhams, in every particular, while some of the New England farmers, whose stock I have recently examined, are equally decided in their preference for the North Devons, both as regards flesh and milk. The stock at Laurel runs in the same pasture and is treated alike, yet the Durhams were heavy in flesh compared with the Devons, and at the same time, furnished quite as much for the pail.

I have given you above a mere sketch. Much might be said of Col. Capron's example, and of his exertions to do good. There is still an astonishing prejudice against what is termed "Book farming," and the innovator upon their old customs has to contend against many a sage advice and fearful warning. But his fields speak louder than his words, and *will have* their influence in spite of prejudice itself.

Col. Capron has made the "wilderness glad, and the desert to blossom as a rose," and all good men will accord to him the credit which he richly deserves.

Truly yours,
SIMON BROWN.

From the Charlestown (Va.) Jeffersonian.

OREGON WHEAT.

WOOD END, July 19, 1847.

MR. BELLER:—*Dear Sir*,—In your last paper you alluded to a field of Oregon wheat, grown upon my farm this season, and as it is a new variety of Wheat in this section of country, and promises to be a valuable one, I will give you a few facts relative to its origin and qualities, which may not prove uninteresting to your readers, most of whom are cultivators of the crop, and all, alike dependant upon it for the main substance of life.

By reference to the Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the year 1845. I find it there stated, that it was brought from the Oregon Territory by a Missionary in the year 1839, and placed in the Patent Office for distribution. The gentleman in Maryland, from whom I first procured it, obtained a small quantity at the Patent Office, and after one or two sowings, succeeded in raising enough to sow four and a quarter acres of ground, accurately measured, from which he reaped the harvest of 1845, 212 bushels of good merchantable wheat, it being over 50 bushels per acre.

I procured a small quantity from him the fall of 1845, and sowed three bushels of it on one and a half acres of Corn ground very late in the fall, from which I reaped the harvest of 1846, thirty-four bushels of good wheat, fit for seed. It stood the wet weather of the harvest of 1846 much better than any other wheat, the straw being strong and stiff, and although the growth of the straw was heavy, it did not fall.

I was so much pleased with it, I sowed it again, and it has fully sustained its original good character, and that on three different farms in this county. The straw this season was of an unusually bright yellow color, strong and stiff,—it tillers well, head smooth, large and square, and from four to five grains abreast, being deep red, round, large and full, thin skin and very light bran. It stood the winter much better than any other variety of wheat I had sown. On the same field with the Oregon wheat was sown some Zimmerman, and it was perceptible to the very furrow, the great difference between the two varieties; the Oregon being much taller, thicker, and the appearance of the straw much brighter, and is estimated to yield from eight to ten bushels more to the acre. If any difference existed in the quality of the soil, it was in favor of the Zimmerman.

Mr. John Myers and Mr. Thomas Griggs, two of my neighbors, procured a small quantity of the seed last fall and sowed it, and I am informed it was decidedly better than any other variety of wheat upon their farms, having suffered much less injury from the effects of the winter, which fully satisfies me that it will prove to be a great acquisition to our farmers, as most all other varieties have run out, and so much degenerated as to be entirely unfit for seed.

This degeneration of seeds was equally the case in times of yore as it is in the present time, for we find Virgil, as of all other things, so of this particular concerning seeds, has reasoned excellently, and thus expresses himself:

"I've seen the largest seeds, tho' view'd with care,
Degenerate, unless the industrous hand
Did yearly cull the largest. Thus all things,
By fatal doom, grow worse, and by degrees,
Decay, forc'd back into their primevous state."

Thus we perceive the Romans, at the period of the Christian Era, were urged to be careful in the choice and selection of their seed wheat, as they were mainly dependent upon it for subsistence, it being the principal staff of life.

Yours, &c., ROB'T W. BAYLOR.

THE TURNIP FLY.—A writer in the "*Leeds Journal*," a British publication of much merit, under date of May 10th, 1844, says, that after trying various remedies to arrest the ravages of the turnip fly, he ascertained, by means of a lens, that there was on every leaf of the plant a number of white flattish substances. The same appearances were also noticeable on the seed. He made a strong solution of salt, and soaked the seed, previous to sowing, and the plants from seed thus "prepared" were not infested by the fly. The same method he has since adopted with the cabbage, and with the same success."—*Germantown Telegraph.*

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

BALTIMORE: SEPTEMBER 1, 1847.

☞The letters of "H." were received and attended to.

☞Our readers will, we think, find the present No. of the "*Farmer*" as full of interest as any which has preceded it—The original communications will be found very interesting—and we have promises from some of the best farmers of this State, Virginia, and Delaware, for others which will, we have no doubt, render our journal still more popular. We are happy to inform our friends, that our subscription list, since the commencement of the present volume, has had an unprecedented increase.

The communication from the Hon. *Charles B. Calvert*, which will be found in another part of our journal, on the improvement of worn-out lands, and the value of *Root crops*, will commend itself to every intelligent reader, as well by the clear and comprehensive views of the writer, as by the importance of the subjects he discusses with so much talent and propriety of thought and language. Mr. Calvert is among the most enterprising of Maryland farmers, and has, in a few years, by his energy and masterly management of his large estate, covered barren old fields with the most beautiful verdure. One of the most learned divines of England, said, in substance, a century ago, that he who made two blades of grass grow where only one had grown before, should rank among the greatest of national benefactors; but to the honor of Mr C., it may be said, he has done infinitely more than this—he has caused hundreds of acres that were almost aliens to vegetation, to teem with the most luxuriant crops of grass, thus demonstrating how essential mind is to the successful development of the agricultural resources of the soil.

Sowing Clover Seed.—As *clover*, *lime* and *plaster* form the basis of good husbandry, every farmer should make all necessary arrangements *now*, to place himself in a condition to sow a bushel of clover seed over every five acres of his lands, next spring, that he may have in wheat.

A Fixed Fact.—Every gallon of urine voided on your farm, has in it the nutriment and mineral elements necessary to make a bushel of wheat. Think of this fact, save your urine from wasting, and thereby increase your wheat crop next year. Fortunes are made by attention to small matters.

Sowing Orchard Grass.—Before sowing this seed, it should be spread upon a barn floor and moistened with water. It should have the water gently poured over it out of a watering pot by one hand, as another is shovelling it over, so as to ensure all the seeds being made wet. When this is done, strew plaster or ashes over it, and continue to turn over the seed until they are perfectly separated from each other; then shovel them up into a pile, and let them so remain for 12 or 14 hours, when they will be fit to sow. When sown, they should be very lightly harrowed in with a very light harrow, and then rolled.

Orchard grass seed being extremely light and chaffy, unless thus prepared, are difficult to vegetate and often disappoint the well founded hopes of the sower.

☞SMUT IN WHEAT.—Farmers can have no excuse for their crops of wheat being injured by *smut*, as they all have simple preventive means within their power, and as we are the advocate of enlightened economy, we will briefly state the one easiest of application and least costly. Make a brine of salt and water sufficiently strong to bear an egg, soak the seed wheat in this from 12 to 24 hours, when the brine must be drawn off, and the seed wheat rolled in newly slacked lime or unslacked ashes. No larger portion of the seed-wheat should be taken out of the soak than can be sown the same day. It may remain several days in the soak without injury; but its germinating powers are liable to be impaired by being permitted to dry after being soaked before it is sowed.

Seed Wheat, thus prepared, is not only secured against smut, but receives in the process an impetus which urges forth vegetation several days in advance of that which may be sown without being soaked, and grows and roots much quicker. We have treated this subject under our monthly head, but deem it so important as to merit a separate notice.☜

ORCHARD GRASS.

The following was written by the Editor in reply to a letter from a gentleman of Talbot county, Md.—as it may be of service to others, we have concluded to publish it in the "*Farmer*."

Dear Sir:—In reply to your inquiry relative to how you should set your fifteen acres with Orchard grass, whether it would be best to set it alone or with grain, I would remark, I should prefer to sow it *alone;* though it may be sown with grain, and if the seed be properly managed will vegetate and grow well. Orchard grass seed is very light and chaffy, and should always be *moistened* before being sown. It should be spread on the barn floor, and have water poured on it from a watering pot or culender, slowly, the seed to be turned over by one hand while the other is gently pouring on the water, until the whole is moderately wet. It should be left a day in the wet heap, when ashes should be mixed with it to seperate the seed, mixing the ashes a little at a time, until the mass of seed is seperated. Then it should be sown and harrowed in *lightly* with a light harrow, and then rolled. By rolling, the earth is compressed immediately around the seed, and germination brought about in one half the time it would otherwise take to vegetate.

Were I about to sow orchard-grass I would first sow and *plough* in a peck of Buckwheat to the acre; then harrow and sow the orchard-grass seed and roll as above directed. The buckwheat would protect the orchard grass plants from the sun until frost, then be cut down by the frost and afford protection to them through the winter, and by decomposition next spring and summer give out much of nutriment, besides yielding no little protection from drought to the roots.

MACLURA OR OSAGE ORANGE.

A letter from Chestertown, Md. to the Editor of the American Farmer, makes the following enquiries:

"I have several acres in town lots, which I wish to enclose with rapidly growing hedges.

I suppose the Maclura or Osage Orange to be the best suited to this purpose. Can you inform me where I can procure seed? What is the proper time of sowing, cultivating, &c.? For the benefit of farmers generally, give me the desired information in the columns of your paper."

The seed of the Osage Orange can be procured in this city at $4 per quart We would refer our respected correspondent to pages 189 and 238, of the last (2nd) volume of the American Farmer, for the information he desires in regard to sowing, &c.—in communications from Mr. Gowan, of Philadelphia, than whom no better authority in such matters can be given.

CHINA, OREGON AND ETRURIAN WHEAT.

The following letter from a respectable farmer of Talbot county, Md., gives rather a discouraging account of these varieties of wheat. From a friend in Carroll county, we have received a beautiful sample of the Etrurian, but he informs us that it has been found during the past season, not to be fly proof.

"I have received the July and August numbers of the American Farmer, and am much pleased with them. In looking over the August No. I see China wheat offered for sale, and it is said to be fly and rust proof—I unfortunately sowed some of this wheat in 1845, as also, some of the *celebrated* Oregon, for which I paid $2.25 per bushel. It was a total failure; it was eaten by the fly, and what escaped that insect, was taken by the rust; it was not worth one cent. I also sowed some Etrurian—this was destroyed by the fly and rust, (this was the case with all who sowed this wheat in our neighborhood)."

DARLINGTON'S BOTANY.

[*Agricultural Botany:* An enumeration and description of useful plants and weeds, which merit the notice, or require the attention of American Agriculturists. By *Wm. Darlington, M. D.*]

A work bearing the above title, has just been issued from the presses of J. W. Moore, 138 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and Mark H. Newman & Co., 119 Broadway, N. Y. As its title imports, it is from the pen of that ripe scholar and distinguished botanist and farmer, Dr. *Wm. Darlington*, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, a gentleman whose life has been devoted to Science—whose contributions to the agricultural press, has rendered his deservedly high reputation familiar throughout the country, and whose *former work*, is so highly esteemed, as to render anything more than a passing notice of this, a labor of supererogation. It comprises:—1. a glossary of the principal botanical terms used in this work—2. a chapter on the abbreviations and references contained in it—3. a chapter on the Linnæian arrangement of the genera treated of—4. a chapter on the groups and orders noticed in it—5. a chapter on agricultural botany, in which the Phænogamous or flowering plants are designated and described—6. a chapter on the Monopetalous Exogens—7. a chapter on Apetalous Exogens—8. a chapter on Endogenous plants—9. a chapter on Cryptogamous plants—9. a chapter on the superior Cellular plants—10. a chapter on Thaliophytes or Vegetable Expansions—11. a chapter on Cryptogarnous plants—12. a chapter, alphabetically arranged, designating the names, properties and uses of the various plants—13. a copious index of the orders, tribes, genera and species of the several plants—and 14. an index of English and foreign names of plants.

The labor and research performed and made by Dr. Darlington in the preparation of this work, must have been immense, so great that but few men in the country would have encountered either the one or the other—surely none less enthusiastically devoted to agriculture than he. The work was one much needed by all who take an interest in the study of botany, and will be received as being a most able and acceptable addition to the stock of botanic knowledge, by every gentleman of education and taste. The Doctor desires to excite a spirit of inquiry among the young farmers of our country, with the view that they may acquire a knowledge of this science, because he justly believes it intimately connected with the business and interests of agriculture, and hence the issue of his present learned work. It should be in the hands of every agriculturist, and we trust it will soon find a place in the library of all.

A letter from an eminent Physician in Shepherdstown, Va., to the Editor, says:—

"The "*Farmer*" is still becoming of more value to the Agriculturist, and will, I hope continue to spread its influence. I am becoming more and more attached to its pages every year, and hail its arrival every month as an old friend."

GUANO.—The increasing demand for this article, and the powerful effects which it has had in aiding in the renovation of worn-out lands, renders it a matter of no little consequence. The increase in price within the last few months, (and the indications are not very favorable for a decline) has been a serious bar to its still further use. The supply is now in the hands of a British company, but if we remember aright, their claims upon the Peruvian Government will expire in a short time. In the London correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune, we find the

following paragraph, by which it will be seen, that efforts are being made to have a large quantity thrown into the market, the ensuing year:

"The Government of Peru is indebted to English creditors to a very large amount, and it is a curious fact that the debt can only be liquidated by the sale of Peruvian Guano! The debt of Peru, contracted in England, amounts to £1,816,000—of this sum about £116,000 has been redeemed, but as no dividend has been paid since 1826, a large interest has accumulated; the total principal now amounts to £3,850,000. To show that this large amount can be paid, it is necessary to refer to a few facts. About seven years ago, Peruvian guano was first sent to England. In three years, such was the great demand for this article, that no less than 250,000 tons of African guano from Ichaboe were imported and found a ready market. The supply from Ichaboe was soon exhausted, and the whole market is now supplied by the Peruvian guano. This is the sole property of the Government of Peru. It is found on the Chincha Islands, opposite the port of Pisco, and 12 miles from the main land of Peru.—The deposit is said to be inexhaustible. It is calculated at 113,000,000 tons, which, at £2 per ton, would amount to £226,000,000. This guano is principally used in England, and, therefore, without the assistance of British Agriculturists this immense property would be comparatively valueless. In Peru it is given to the farmers. The annual demand in England is about 100,000 tons. The Government of Peru has been offered £500,000 for 200,000, deliverable in 1848 and the following year. The British bondholders of Peruvian State Stock are endeavoring to compel the payment of their just claims. This is a curious and important subject."

IMPROVEMENT OF WORN-OUT LANDS—CULTIVATION AND PRESERVATION OF ROOT CROPS.

By CHARLES B. CALVERT, Esq., *of Riversdale, Prince George's County, Md.*

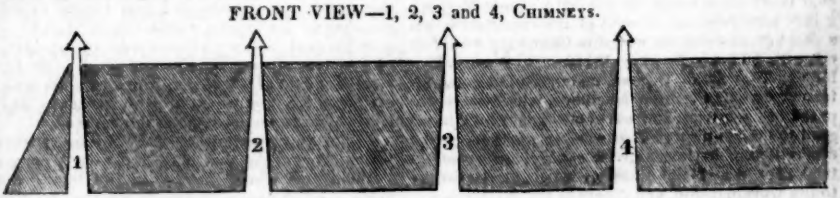
RIVERSDALE, August 21st, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Mr. Editor:—I embrace the first leisure moment to comply with the request made by you, relative to my mode of raising and preserving the root crop, and only regret that my very limited experience in the matter, will prevent my being able to do justice to a subject that richly merits the most serious consideration of agriculturists. The Wheel of Fortune in her revolutions, turned me out to graze on a very sterile part of her dominions, which rendered it absolutely necessary to discover some means of improving the poverty-stricken fields, which surround me, in order to prevent starvation. It struck me, from reading of the improvements which had been effected on the worn-out lands of England by root crops, that this was the only system which the means at my command would allow me to pursue, and I have become fully satisfied since, that it is the only system for a *general* improvement of the worn out lands of this section of the country. In making this declaration, I disclaim any disposition to throw down the gauntlet to either of *my friends* who have been, in the two or three last numbers of your paper, battling over the fields of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo, for I feel well assured that the well earned and deserved reputation which they have gained, on those well fought fields, have placed them as far ahead of all other competitors, as the first battle of Buena Vista has raised its *Chief* above the heads of all *his* rivals. Believing, however, that all who fight the battles of agriculture, should desire to have a drawn battle, I hope my two friends will not take it amiss in my appearing as mediator, as we have a most illustrous precedent in the latest mode of conducting the Mexican war, and suggesting that, although they have done good service to the cause, there are other modes for the improvement of worn out lands worthy of consideration, and I trust that I shall not be considered as an intruder in a family dispute and suffer the penalty which invariably follows an interference of a third party in a quarrel, between a man and his wife. Of course the first requisite for the improvement of poor land is manure in some form or other, and the whole git of the question consists in determining what kind of manure will produce the greatest benefit at the least cost, for it must be apparent to all reflecting minds that no system, which is not open to the large mass of agriculturists, can produce that general and extended improvement so much to be desired, and although I do not wish to be understood as in the least undervaluing the mineral and foreign manures, (if I may be allowed to use these terms to express the whole vocabulary of those manures which are not attainable on every farm) still I assert it as a well established principle in agriculture, not to be controverted by any partial experiments howsoever successful, that the foundation of any general improvement must consist in the production of vegetable and animal manures on the farm itself, because a certain quantity of vegetable manure is indispensable to any permanent improvement of the soil. The mineral and foreign manures can only be obtained from certain localities, and therefore can only be removed to any considerable distance by additional costs for transportation which renders them at once inaccessible to the larger portion of agriculturists, and it is only in certain locations, or where individuals have abundant means to procure them, that they can be advantageously used; but were it otherwise the general use of them would very soon advance the price beyond the most sanguine calculations of their advocates, because it is a notorious fact, that the very partial use, which has been made of them in the last few years, has greatly increased the price. Assuming, therefore, that my premises are correct it only remains for me to show what system will produce the greatest amount of vegetable and animal manure, and I contend that the cultivation of root crops in conjunction with the rearing and feeding of stock will yield a more abundant supply than can be obtained from any other system. One acre well manured and cultivated in carrots will afford more nutriment than ten acres in any kind of grain, and so in proportion of other root crops. I have become so thoroughly satisfied of this fact from practical experiments, that I have under cultivation, in different kinds of roots, the present season, between twenty-five and thirty acres of land. But I have spun out a long yarn, without coming to the point of your enquiry, and must therefore finish by giving such hints, as my very limited experience enables me to do, in the hope that some one more experienced and capable may be induced to enlighten the public on so interesting a subject. I would particularly recommend all who intend cultivating roots the next season, to commence in time and haul together, on the ground they contemplate cultivating, a quantity of manure and other materials to make a com-

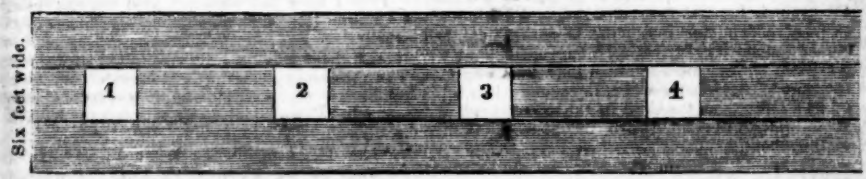
post heap during the winter, as fresh barn yard manure is not so good for root crops as compost. The land intended for roots should be deeply ploughed and subsoiled as early in the spring as its condition will allow, and it should afterwards be cultivated with the harrow, roller, and plough, until completely pulverized, as it is a useless expenditure of time and seed, to attempt the root crop without preparing the land in the nicest manner. The manure, which should be fine, must be worked in the soil, but particular attention should be observed to keep it as near the surface as possible, and it should be applied in large quantities if you desire a large yield in the crop. Where a large crop is cultivated they should be sown in drills 2½ or 3 feet apart, in order that they may be cultivated by horse-power; and by sowing the carrots, parsnips, sugar beets, mangel wurzel, and ruta bagas at these distances, they may be well worked and the common turnip afterwards sown between the drills—the carrots should be sown in April or early in May—the sugar beets and mangel wurzel in May and the 1st of June—the ruta bagas from the first of June to the middle of July—and the other kinds of turnips from the 1st of August to the 1st of September. The mangel wurzel and the sugar beets should be taken up before the severe frosts set in, as they lose much of their saccharine properties by being frozen, but the carrots, parsnips, and turnips are not injured by a little frost.

FRONT VIEW—1, 2, 3 and 4, CHIMNEYS.



Trench 18 inches wide and 12 inches deep.

GROUND PLAN—1, 2, 3 and 4, CHIMNEY HOLES.



Any of these roots may be very easily preserved, during the winter, by stacking them up in cellars, but where there are no cellars, they may be covered up in heaps out of doors, and I would suggest a plan, which I am about executing for a portion of my own crop this season. On the top of a hill level off a floor of any given length and six feet wide; through the centre of this floor cut a trench eighteen inches wide and one foot deep, and cover the trench over with plank, then commencing 3 feet from either end cut holes, eighteen inches square, in the covering plank, six feet apart, and fasten a chimney, made of wooden slats, say 5 feet long, eighteen inches square at one end, and six inches at the other, over each of these holes. You can then build up the pile of roots, having this line of chimneys in the centre, with a base six feet wide and approaching to a point about 6 or 8 inches below the top of the chimneys. The heap may then be covered with straw or leaves and afterwards well earthed up to exclude the frost. The ends of the trench and the tops of the chimneys should be kept open in moderate weather to allow a free circulation of air through the whole kiln, and in very cold weather they may be closed with boards and some fresh stable manure By an arrangement of this kind you will be enabled to give the heaps air whenever they require it, and thereby prevent the great loss which sometimes occurs from having them heated. In conclusion, permit me to say that I have been trying some experiments this season, which, if successful, I will inform you of hereafter.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,
CHAS. B. CALVERT.

MORE HELP TO THE FARMER.—Sulphuric Acid, invaluable for many purposes, is coming into common use among English farmers. Some buy whole cartloads of it. The old price was eight cents per pound, but it can now be had in Liverpool for three —platina receivers, though they cost $5,000, effecting a great saving, when substituted for glass in the manufacture. The production of crops removes the phosphate of lime from the soil—bones dissolved in sulphuric acid produce this phosphate, and the phosphoric acid so produced has been brought to bear upon the land with the most beneficial results. Professor Liebig gives it as his opinion, that the commercial prosperity of a country may be estimated by the quantities of sulphuric acid it consumes; and Mr. Pusey, M. P. declared, in a lecture on it last month, that he considers it no inadequate criterion of the degree of civilization. In Wiley & Putnam's new edition of Liebig, page 184, it is remarked, that Ingenhouse proposed diluted sulphuric acid as a means of increasing the fertility of soils. Sprinkled on calcareous soils gypsum is formed, but this is a costly manure—100 lbs. concentrated sulphuric acid diluted with 1,000 lbs. of water being equivalent to only 176 lbs. of gypsum.

THE WHEAT HARVEST IN CAMPAIGN CO.—COOK'S AND HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINES—VARIETIES OF WHEAT.

EDITOR OHIO CULTIVATOR—*Dear Sir:*—The wheat harvest is just over in this neighborhood or county, and with the exception of a heavy rain, accompanied with wind, in the beginning, the weather has been good; yet notwithstanding the favorable weather, the harvest has been tedious, on account of the quantity of wheat sown being rather greater than usual, the slow progress the wheat made in ripening, and the scarcity of hands.

We generally have an abundance of hands come in from the neighboring counties north of us, but this year from some cause they failed to come; perhaps it may have been on account of the expectation that a great quantity of the wheat in Campaign would be cut with "*Cook's Reaping Machines.*" Messrs. Goble and Stewart of Urbana, manufactured some fifteen or twenty of these machines, which were disposed of upon trial, and expectation was high in regard to their utility; but one after another, in the different neighborhoods of the county, after patient trial, proved inefficient. Some attribute the failure to the workmanship, and others to the machine.

I am not a mechanic, and consequently my opinion as to the merit or demerit of either, would not be worth anything; but judging from *comparison* and the trials I have witnessed, I may be permitted to say, that there is not sufficient *power*—the wheels being too small, the machine consequently too near the ground, imparting to it a dull and lifeless appearance. The *rake* is attached to spring-steel, and revolves upon a roller between two uprights on the platform, with a canvass spread the whole length of the rake to seperate the wheat in raking. It is turned by a strap from the shaft of the main wheel, and when brought in contact with the platform to take off the wheat, bends so as to pass over. The rake would fail to perform its office, when the straw would accumulate upon the platform, trammel the knives, (which have not a sufficient number of guards,) and the whole machine choke up. This was the principal cause of the failure, and it is very doubtful whether a rake can ever be constructed upon the revolving principle so as to be effective in *all kinds of grain*. It has to be situated at too great a distance from the power created by the wheels, the strap too long, and the roller too small to give the requisite evolution, so that it is rendered inactive, and when it stops, the *knives* must soon stop, as explained above.

Messrs. Wilson and Taylor, my neighbors, who last year procured one of "*Hussey's Reapers*" from Baltimore, again did good work, cutting both thick and thin crops, with a great saving of time, labor, and grain. This machine appears to have the necessary power and durability; the material being good, and the mechanism superior, it is not so liable to get out of order, or break. The owners are in fine spirits, and call it the "Rough and Ready," and calculate the annual saving is nearly, if not quite, equal to the cost of the machine. Hickman Harris, Esq., of Clark county, procured one of the same which did well and has given entire satisfaction—the cost was $100, with about $15 transportation, which might be reduced by omitting the *double-trees* and *tongue*. It does not propose to do so much as Cook's, requiring a hand seated upon a box to make good use of the "bone and muscle" of the shoulders and elbows in raking off the wheat.

In making up the estimate of a quantity of wheat in Campaign, it would be necessary to take into consideration the unusual quantity sown, together with the perfection of the grain and the size of the head, to offset the ravages of the fly and grub-worm, (the last doing more damage I think than the former,) the chess, and other filth so common in all the uplands—and the conclusion would be, that we shall have within *twenty per cent.* as much wheat, by weight, or within that much of flour as last year's crop. But in making this estimate, great allowance is made for some crops, and generally of the "Kentucky" and "Mediterranean" varieties, which are decidedly the best and cleanest wheat grown here this season.

Samual Keener, Esq., an enterprising farmer of this county, has introduced a new variety called the Etrurian or Baltimore wheat, imported by Commodore Stewart, which promises to be an improvement, on account of size, weight and yield. He has informed me that he will send you a sample, with description, &c., and wheat growers generally will find it an object to secure some of this for seed.*

I send you a sample of the "Kentucky wheat," which is about the quality of that variety generally. Perhaps this wheat may be known by some other name in other places, but we know no other here.

All other crops look well, and the prospect is good for a profitable year's toil to the Farmer.

Very Respectfully, Yours,
J. C. BRAND.

Buckland, near Urbana, O., July, 1847.

P. S. I have just observed your request in the O. C., of the 15th inst., concerning the Mediterranean wheat. It was "fly proof" here, and clear of rust, though there was but little rust in any of the wheat. The "Kentucky" was injured considerably with the fly, but all things considered, it is a favorite wheat, and will be extensively sown this fall. J. C. B.

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*The following is the letter of Mr. Keener, (brother of Mr. Christian Keener, of this city,) which is published in the same No. of the Ohio Cultivator, from which Mr. Brand's letter is copied:

ETRURIAN OR STEWART WHEAT.—*Mr. Bateman:* You have been pleased to refer to a short conversation we had last summer, on wheat culture, and ask the result of my experiments with the new variety of wheat introduced by me, in this county in the fall of '45.

Not having time to write as fully as I desire, I will merely say, that my attention was first called to this variety of wheat during the summer of '45 by Henry M. Zollickoffer, of Philadelphia, who had previously introduced it into Carroll county, Maryland, through his brother, the Rev. Daniel Zollickoffer, of Pipe Creek. From the last named gentleman, I bought ten bushels; which was sowed on the 4th day of September, '45, and harvested on the 29th of June, '46. The yield from the ten bushels, was, as near as I can come at it—being absent from home when it was thrashed and sowed—from 160 to 170 bushels, or about 26 bushels to the acre.

Last fall I seeded largely of this kind of wheat, and the yield will not be less than 50 per cent. in advance of any other variety sown on my farm.

Part of my last fall's seeding I was tempted, from its luxuriant growth, to pasture all winter, in consequence of which, I seriously injured about 40 acres; the winter being very unfavorable for the purpose.

The product of my first seeding, was a most beautiful article, both in the size and color of the berry.

This year the grain is not so large, and the color a shade or two darker. I send you by this mail, a Maryland newspaper, the "Carrolltonian," in which you will find a notice of this variety of wheat, under the name of Etrurian or Stewart. I enclose you also a few heads of the wheat, taken from the shock, without particular selection.

Respectfully, yours,
SAMUEL KEENER.

Melville Grove, near Urbana, July 19, 1847.

From these statements our readers can form their opinions as to the merits of this wheat. For our own part taking into view Mr. Keener's experiments, we are strongly inclined to believe it will prove of much value to the farmers of Ohio; and we advise as many as can well do so, to procure seed and give it a trial. We presume Mr. Keener has some to dispose of, but we have no positive information on this point. The sample sent us is indeed a beautiful article—chaff white and beardless; berry good size, color a fine yellow.—ED. OHIO CULT.

From the Farmer and Mechanic.

THE WASTE LANDS OF THE SOUTH.

One of the most peculiar features of the southern scenery, is the vast amount of uncultivated and worn-out land which so frequently meets the eye.—Much of it has become exhausted by the cultivation of tobacco, and as much from sheer neglect, it is unenclosed and of no value, except as a scanty and temporary pasture, not otherwise yielding enough to pay the taxes on them. Can these lands be reclaimed? There can be no doubt of their resuscitation under proper treatment, but the misfortune is, that the extent of these lands presents a task of such magnitude as to deter the most energetic; yet if the holders of these barren "commons" would adopt the true war policy, "divide and conquer," these valueless fields might soon be made to "blossom as the rose," and become as productive as any lands in the State.

I know it is often argued that these lands are not valueless, because in a few years they grow up in pine; but the misfortune here is that "while the grass is growing the steed is starving," the people cannot live upon pines, the pines do not furnish the means for improving the land, fostering education or paying taxes, and while the pines are growing, the poor possessor of a thousand acres is obliged to narrow his arable domain, and cultivate less and less of his vast estate, until the encroachments of the forest drive him to the last corner, and he finds what is left scarcely sufficient to give him decent sepulture. It is useless to talk of recommencing hostilities; the forest has conquered: the man has not the first sixpence to buy an axehelve to begin the attack, and the young pines wave their green boughs exultingly and in triumph.

The pines are still young, and do not intend to get old, if size is to be taken as the evidence of age; the soil has not sufficient strength to produce a pine that shall ever do more than shade the spot on which it stands.

I know that among the owners of these pine barrens, there is a strong opinion in favor of *shade* as a manure, but it might be argued that the shade of a bag of guano, a cart-load of marl, or the shadow of the proprietor might do just as well, and leave the land at the same time arable and productive of at least enough to pay the taxes on it.

Can these lands be reclaimed? If so, how? I remember a case in Cecil county, Maryland; I was passing a short time, a few summers since, with a plain practical farmer, who had watched the progress of his pine land with regret; he had been told that the capacious maw of steam enterprize would demand every stick of pine that could be raised, and that his forests in prospectu were very valuable; but as year after year, another and another spot was left out, and his area of cultivation and rotation were diminished, and consequently his ability to improve what was left impaired, and the stubble pines remained at a stand, and nobody came to pre-engage his stock of pines, he concluded to make the sacrifice. He cut down a few acres, burned the branches, and ploughed up the stumps. He next sowed the land with oats, and just before they were ripe unto the harvest turned upon them "a herd of many swine." Great was the devastation, and strong the opinion that "our neighbor" was demented. But when the swine had the full benefit of the generous feeding and the land the benefit of the swine, the land was again ploughed and made ready for a crop of wheat.

A vigorous growth of oats followed the second ploughing, and this turned in with the seed wheat. The produce of the wheat crop enabled him to put on one hundred bushels of lime to the acre, and the fruits of this were sufficient to reclaim a valuable farm.

This then is one mode of recovering such worn-out lands with but little expense and in a very short time.

One other case occurs to my mind. In Kent Co., of the same State, the garden spot of the Union, was a farm belonging to non-resident minors, and as is generally the case with such lands, rapidly yielding to the advance of pines. It was sold, and an intelligent farmer, adjacent, purchased a portion of the least hopeful of improvement, in order to make his own farm square. He had a few acres too much and offered it for sale, but it was not deemed worth the necessary enclosure. He put a cheap fence around it, sowed it in oats, turned them in green, and sowed Indian corn broadcast. This attained an average growth of about ten inches, and just before it went into the "sere and yellow leaf" turned that in also; on this he spread a coat of lime, and put in a crop of wheat, following it in the spring with clover. The wheat crop was better than an average, the clover was unusually fine, and the land will compare well with any in its vicinity. Thus it is shown that those waste lands may be rendered valuable, and it would be much better where farmers have more of this kind of land than they can master, to give in fee to any industrious man a fair proportion of all he could reclaim.

Major Philip Reybold, of Deleware, owns in Kent Co., Md., vast quantities of such lands, and found it better to give the profits and other advantages for ten years for the improvements made in that time.

He has certainly done well and wisely, for the taxes heretofore exceeded the rents. No man could suffer by giving one half such land for the improvement of the other, and the ready access to inexhaustible supplies of lime, shell and marl would make it no bad bargain for the enfeoffee. Both parties would be benefitted, because ten acres of the improved land would be worth ten thousend as it is! H. M.

PRINCE GEORGE'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This association will hold its annual Fair, at Upper Marlboro', on the 14th and 15th of October next, and from the enterprise and intelligence of its members, we contemplate the happiest results from its meeting.

From the Germantown Telegraph.

TIMOTHY—HERDS GRASS.

(*Phleum Pratense.*)

There appears to be considerable doubt as to the native country of this grass. Dr. Darlington says it is a native of Europe, Mr. Loudon that it is a native of Britain, while others assert that it was orignally introduced into the latter country by the celebrated Bartholomew Rocque.—The probability is that it is indigenous to both countries where its peculiar excellencies have rendered it a favorite, and where it is now more generally cultivated than any other grass as a winter feed for stock. In the Linnæan system it is known as the *Triandria Dygna.* In Great Britain it is called "Timothy"—a name probably derived from the individual who first succeeded in bringing it into successful notice, Mr. Timothy Hudson, who some say introduced it into that country from South Carolina, about the year 1780.

In nutritive properties herds grass is not perhaps exceeded by any grass now cultivated, and we are glad to find that in most of the grazing States of our union its value as a winter feed for stock appears to be properly appreciated. If we can attach credit to the statements of popular authors, it appears that the experiments made by many distinguished Agriculturists—and among the number the Duke of Bedford, this grass should be contemptated as eminently valuable. An experiment made by the latter individual, resulted in the production of 40,837 lbs. of grass per statute acre, making, when dry, 19,379 lbs. of hay. It is decidedly partial to a humid soil, delighting in such a combination of elements as usually distinguishes our clayey loams, and intervales, where, with a constant supply of humidity, there is a large per centum of argillaceous matter, and where the sudden alternations of wet and dry are seldom felt. We have sometimes known this grass to succeed well on light arenaceous soils; yet its success, in such situations is generally limited, and its growth restricted or wholly cut short in the third year by native grasses. The following, which we take from an agricultural publication, exhibits, more definitely than we can, the method of its management, as a crop:—

The best time of sowing is September, after taking off a crop of potatoes. The soil should be carefully prepared for the reception of the seed by deep and thorough plowing, and well pulverised by the harrow, the use of which is indispensable to the success of the intended crop. As a general thing we think rolling the ground highly advisable, especially when of a light texture, as the seed being of small size, is less likely to germinate without some method is adopted for compressing the particles, and bringing them in contact with the grains. For this purpose we have ordinarily used what, in most sections is denominated a "*Drag Roller*"—an instrument formed by fastening a chain to each end of a common drag, so that it may be drawn over the soil sideways, or by fastening the team to a *clevis*, attached to one side, near the centre, which, on the whole is preferable to the former, as it facilitates the operation of smoothing by permitting the drag to pass near stumps, stones, and other obstacles of large size without hindrance of the team. The quantity of seed for an acre is ordinarily about six quarts. English publications recommend a bushel to every four acres, and they refer to America as the country whence to procure the seed.

From the generally well known fact that the great amount of nutriment is concentrated after the period of seeding, it seems that considerable returns for the cost of cultivation might be derived by saving the seed. A PRACTICAL FARMER.

Bald Eagle Farm, July 21, 1847.

CURE FOR THE YELLOWS.

It may seem to many persons a difficult task to rid ourselves of so wide spread a malady as this, yet we are confident that a little perseverance and care will certainly accomplish it. In the present uncertainty with regard to its contagious nature, it is much the wisest course to reject "the benefit of the doubt," and act upon the principle that it is so. We know at the present moment several gardens, where the trees are mantained in good health by immediately rooting out and destroying every tree as soon as it shows marked symptoms of the malady.

1. We would therefore commence by exterminating, root and branch, every tree which has the yellows. And another tree should not be planted in the same spot without a lapse of several years or a thorough removal of the soil.

2. The utmost care should be taken to select seeds for planting from perfectly healthy trees. Nurserymen to secure this should gather them from districts of the country where the disease is not known.

3. So far we have aimed only at procuring a healthy stock of trees. The most important matter remains to be stated—*how to preserve them in a healthy state.*

The answer to this is emphatically as follows: *pursue steadily, from the first bearing year, the shortening-in system of pruning.* This will at once secure your trees against the possibility of overbearing, and its consequences, and maintains them in vigor and productiveness for a long time.* It will, in short, effectually prevent the yellows where it does not already exist in the tree. To whoever will follow these precautions, pursue this mode of cultivation, and adopt at the same time the remedy for the borer, already suggested, we will confidently insure healthy, vigorous, long-lived trees, and the finest fruit.—Will any reasonable man say that so fine a fruit as the peach does not fully merit them?

Whether the system of shortening-in and careful culture, will prevent the breaking out of the yellows when constitutionally *latent* in the tree we will not yet undertake to say. A few more experiments will prove this. In slight cases we believe that it may. Of one thing, however, we are certain; it has hitherto failed entirely to reclaim trees in which the malady had once broken out. Neither do we know of any well attested case of its cure, after this stage, by any means whatever.† Such cases have indeed been reported to us, and published in the journals, but, where investigated, they have proved to have been trees suffering by the effects of the borer only.

*The following remarks, directly in point are from Loudon's last work. "The effect of shortening the shoots of the peach is not merely to throw more sap into the fruit, but to add vigor to the tree generally by increasing the power of the roots relatively to the branches. The peach being a short-lived tree, *it has been justly remarked by Mr. Thompson, were it allowed to expend all its accumulated sap every year, it would soon exhaust itself and die of old age.*"

†All the specific applications to the root of such substances as salt, lye, brine, saltpetre, urine, &c., recommended for this disease, are founded on their good effects when applied against the *borer.* They have not been found of any value for the yellows.

A planter of peach trees must, even with care, expect to see a few cases of yellows occasionally appear. The malady is too widely extended to be immediately vanquished. Occasionally, trees having the constitutional taint will show themselves where least suspected, but when the peach is once properly cultivated, these will every day become more rare until the original health and longevity of this fruit tree is again established.

The Curl is the name commonly given to a malady which often attacks the leaves of the peach tree. It usually appears in the months of May or June.—The leaves curl up, become thickened and swollen, with hollows on the under, and reddish swellings on the upper side, and finally, after two or three weeks, fall off. They are then succeeded by a new, and healthy crop of foliage. This malady is caused by the punctures of very minute aphides, or plant lice—*Aphis Persicæ?*—which attack the under side of the leaves. Although it does not appear materially to injure either the tree or the crop, yet it greatly disfigures it for a time. In orchards, perhaps few persons will trouble themselves to destroy the insect, but in gardens, it is much better to do so. A mixture of whale oil, soap or strong soft soap and water, with some tobacco stems boiled in it, and the whole applied to the branches from below, with a syringe or garden engine, will soon rid the tree of the insect for one or more years. It should be done when the leaves are a third grown, and will seldom need repeating the same season. [*Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees.*

PROPOSED EXHIBITION OF STOCK IN ST. MARY'S COUNTY.—At a meeting of the board of directors of the St. Mary's County Agricultural Society, held at Leonard Town, on the 3d August, 1847, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, that we, the board of directors of the St. Mary's County Agricultural Society, recommend to the members of the Society to hold an exhibition of stock of all descriptions, but more especially of cattle and sheep, for sale, at the annual meeting of the Society to be held at Leonard Town on the 10th day of November next; and that the public in general be invited to bring stock on that day for exhibition and sale.

It is the opinion of the directors that there is a much larger quantity of stock in the county, particularly cattle and sheep, than is necessary for domestic purposes, and that too much stock is injurious to the general interest, and has a tendency to impoverish the lands and retard the general improvement of the soil; and that if the farmers and planters were to keep less, it would be then more in their power to improve it and render the lesser number far more valuable than the quantity now kept. It is believed that the accumulation of stock is caused in a great degree by the fact that we have no market for it. To remedy this evil, the foregoing proposition is made. By concentrating large numbers of stock at a certain point, at particular seasons, for sale, would attract the attention of butchers and drovers from abroad and bring to us some competition, which may, and we believe will, afford us a regular market and tend to enhance the value of our stock. We would recommend to those who can do it, to fatten their stock, so as to induce the butchers to purchase it; but to those who cannot fatten it, except at too great an expense, we would recommend them by all means to bring their stock, as we believe they will meet with a ready sale for it from graziers.

We further request all persons desirous of bringing stock for sale, to inform some one of the Vice Presidents of the fact, and also of the number and kinds of stock they purpose to exhibit for sale, on or before the 1st of October next. Those of the 1st district may report to the Rev. JOSEPH CARBERY, who is the Vice President of that district. Those of the 2d, to Col. WM. COAD. Those of the 3d, to Dr. WALTER BRISCOE; those of the 4th, to WM. H. THOMAS, Esq., and those of the 5th, to Col. JOHN H. SOTHORON.

The board also request that the Board of directors on the part of the respective districts of the county, co-operate with the Vice Presidents in endeavoring to induce persons to send stock for sale, and in gathering information on the subject, as it will depend upon the quantity of stock which is likely to be exhibited for sale, whether there will be a sale or not. All of which is most respectfully submitted.

B. I. HEARD, President,
WALTER H. BRISCOE, } Vice Pres.
JOHN H. SOTHORON, }
HENRY A. FORD, Rec. Secretary.

TO PREVENT SMUT IN WHEAT.—The smut and burned ear, a fungus growing on Wheat, called by Botanists, Uredo carbo, may generally be prevented by a proper preparation of the seed before it is sown. Many corrosive substances have been recommended for steeps, such as blue vitriol, arsnic, &c. It seems, however, that if care be used in the selection and sorting of the seed, washing it well in rain water, or salt and water, and afterwards drying it with quicklime, effectually prevents the germ of the smut. The following is the method adopted by Gen. Harmon, of Western New York, one of the most successful wheat growers in the Northern States. All small or imperfect kernels are sifted out, and nothing but the matured seed sown. Twenty-four hours before the wheat is sown, it should be washed in a brine as strong as salt will make it. After draining a few minutes, mix with each bushel two quarts of newly slacked lime, and sow one and a quarter bushels to the acre.

Gen. Harmon further remarks: "The above is my course of operation. My average crop for several years has been even 28 bushels per acre, of very superior quality, mostly used for seed. My price has uniformly been twenty-five cents over the millers."

J. R. C.

The above begins with language learned enough to frighten one who has a prejudice against *Book Farming*. But we here put it into our *Book* as a very practical matter, that turns out the dollars and cents. Here an intelligent and extensive wheat-grower, who has for years had an average crop of 28 bushels to the acre in State where the general average is but 16 bushels, and who sells it for 25 cents a bushel more than his neighbors,—gives us some items of the management that secures his success,—that enables him to realize—when the common price of wheat is one dollar—*thirty-five dollars* from an acre, while his less skilful and careful neighbor gets only *sixteen dollars*. And this is put in *the Book* in order that such as please may avail themselves of Gen. H's experience, to secure the like results. Many of our farmers are in the habit of using brine,—some, both the brine and the lime;—but the other *very important* particular—the sifting out of the imperfect kernels—is too generally neglected.—*Eds. Vt. Agriculturist.*

N. Y. STATE FAIR.—This great Festival takes place on 15th, 16th & 17th Sept. at Saratoga Springs.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE MONTGOMERY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY held its 2nd quarterly meeting for the year, at the Court House, in Rockville, on the 7th June, when the following proceedings were had. The President J. P. C. PETER, Esq., in the Chair. The meeting was large. After the proceedings of the preceding meeting had been read by the Secretary, and approved by the Society, the following report of the Executive Committee, was presented, read, and adopted by the Society:—

Your Committee respectfully report, that they have been informed by the Treasurer that there will be in his hands, at the next annual fair, the sum of $150, to be appropriated for premiums; and your Committee recommend that the same be awarded as follows:

For the best	Stallion,	A Bridle, value,	$5
"	Brood Mare,	"	3
"	Saddle Horse,	A Riding whip,	3
"	2 yr old Colt or Filly,		Certificate
"	1 yr "		Certificate
"	Bull, of common stock,		2
"	Milch Cow, "	Churn,	4
"	Bull or Heifer, 2 yr old,		Certificate
"	do 1 "		Certificate
"	Bull, of improved breed,		2
"	Milch cow "	Churn,	4
"	Yoke of Oxen,		5
2d best,	"		3
"	Yoke of Milch Cows,		3
"	Ram, a pair of Sheep-shears,		1
"	Lot of Ewes, (not less than 3)	A pair of Wool Cards	
"	Of lambs, (not less than 3)		Cert.
"	Ram Lamb,		Certificate
"	Boar,		2
"	Sow,		2
"	Shoats, (not less than 3)		Certificate
"	Three-horse Plough,		5
"	Two-horse do.		5
"	One-horse do.		5
"	Harrow,		3
"	Cultivator,		2
"	Corn Coverer,		2
"	Wheat Fan,		3
"	Straw Cutter,		3
"	Corn Sheller,		2
"	Churn,		1
"	Washing Machine,		2

At the discretion of the Committee on Agricultural Implements, 10

Your committee also recommend that a Silver Goblet, of the value of $10, be offered as a premium for the highest improvement of a lot of land, not less than 2 acres, and that a committee be appointed to award the same at the annual fair, in 1848. The several competitors to give satisfactory evidence to the committee of the quality or productive capacity of the land before the improvement commenced, and of the kind, quantity and cost of the artificial means applied, and that the premium be awarded to the lot, the productiveness of which has been most increased at the least expense; and that a Silver Goblet, of the value of $5, be awarded at the same time, to the second best.

JOHN A. CARTER, Chairman.

And it was Resolved, That no article whatever which may be exhibited at our coming fair, and which may have received the premium last year, shall be entitled to receive the premium again; and that this resolution be made a standing rule of this Society, in awarding premiums hereafter.

And it was Resolved, That all the funds in the Treasury, unappropriated otherwise, shall be at the disposal of the Executive Committee, to be distributed among articles of merit for which premiums are not specifically awarded.

Upon motion, A. B. DAVIS, Esq, Chairman of the Committee on Rotation of Crops, was allowed further time to report.

JOHN P. C. PETER, Esq., the Chairman of the committee on the production and application of Manures, read to the Society his Report, which is of rare merit, and distinguished for strong sense, and practical views of the subject. It was received with the thanks of the Society, and ordered to be filed, printed, and reserved for future discussion.

Upon motion, further time was allowed F. C. CLOPPER, Chairman of the Committee on Labor, to make his report.

Upon motion, and the reading of a correspondence between the President and EDWARD STABLER, the Chairman of the Committee on Agricultural Implements, further time was granted him to present his report.

The society then went into an election of its officers, and the following gentlemen were chosen, to wit:

John P. C. Peter, President; R P. Dunlop, A. B. Davis, George W. Dawson, Francis Valdenar, and Dr. Horace Wilson, Vice Presidents; James W. Anderson, Corresponding Secretary; W. Veirs Bouic, Recording Secretary; Robert W. Carter, Treasurer; Wm. H. Farquhar, S. C. Viers, Joseph T. Baily, F. C. Clopper, and Otho Magruder, Executive Committee.

Upon motion, it was Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be charged with the duty of inviting Mr. BENJAMIN HALLOWELL to deliver before this Society, an appropriate address at its next annual meeting.

It was also Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be charged with the duty of transmitting to the Prince George's County Agricultural Society, a printed copy of these proceedings; and that this resolution remain a standing rule of this society, with respect to the proceedings of its several meetings hereafter.

It was also Resolved, That the papers of this place be requested to publish these proceedings; and that this Society be now adjourned, to meet on the 2d Thursday of September next, the day of its annual meeting, when an Agricultural Exhibition will be held at Rockville.

W. VEIRS BOUIC, Rec. Sec.

☞We are pleased to announce that an effort is being made to establish an Agricultural Society in our county. A number of subscribers have already been obtained, and we doubt not the project will be fully carried out. That such a society is very much needed in this county must be too apparent to require our showing. There can be no kind of doubt that other communities have been largely benefited by similar institutions, as may be plainly seen even by the most casual observer; and it is matter of surprise that so little interest has been heretofore manifested in this quarter in regard to this subject. We have ample resources within our borders, and all that would seem to be required is the hearty co-operation of our farmers and planters.—*Port Tobacco Times.*

PREMIUMS.

The following premiums will be offered by the *Prince George's Agricultural Society*, at its Seventh Annual Fair, to be held in Upper Marlboro' on THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, the 14th and 15th of October, 1847.

PREMIUMS FOR THE BEST REGULATED FARMS.

By the voluntary contributions of $5 each, on the part of twenty gentlemen, the Society is enabled to offer three splendid pieces of silver work, $50, $30 and $20, as premiums for the first, second and third best regulated and most highly improved farms in Prince George's county.

Dr. JOHN H. BAYNE, CLEMENT HILL, GEORGE FORBES, SAMUEL H. DORSETT, and ——————— compose the committee of Inspection, any three of whom may act and have power to fill vacancies on the committee. All competitors for these premiums must write to said gentlemen and name the day for the inspection of the farm offered for premium.

In awarding the premiums, the committee will be governed by the appearance of the crops growing on the farm, the neatness, order, and system which may be apparent, the condition of the implements, houses, fencing, roads, &c., the present value of the land, as compared with its value five or ten years back, reference being had to the cost of improvements, and the economy manifested in the same; and also shall take into consideration the annual profits of the farm, and the system pursued in raising and application of manures, and the cost of the same, with the effect of the same noted, where accurate information can be obtained. The variety of crops grown on the farm will enable them to make a proper allowance for the difference between a tobacco plantation and simply a grain growing farm.

The successful competitor for the highest premium cannot hereafter offer for said premium; but the successful competitors for the lower premiums may compete for the higher.

HORSES.

For the best pair of matched horses, bred by the owner,	$2
" Best saddle horse or mare, bred by the owner,	2
" Best single harness horse, bred by the owner,	2
" Best stud horse, for all purposes,	5
" Next best, for all purposes,	*American Far.*
" Best brood mare for general purposes	5
" Next best for general purposes,	*A. Far.*
" Best horse colt, of any blood, between one and two years old,	2
" Ditto between two and three,	2
" Best filly of any blood, between one and two years old,	2
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best filly of any blood, between two and three years old,	2
" Best saddle horse or mare,	2
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best pair of matched horses,	2
" Best single harness horse,	2
" Best pair of mules,	3
" Best mule colt,	2

CATTLE.

For the best Durham bull, over three years,	5
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best Durham bull, between two and three years old,	3
For the Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best Devonshire bull,	5
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best Devonshire cow, over 3 years old,	5
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best Durham cow, over 3 years old,	5
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best cow of any breed other than Devon and Durham,	3
" Best yoke of working oxen,	4
" Best Durham Bull, 1 and 2 years,	3
" Best bull of any other breed, 1 and 2 y'rs	3
" Best Durham calf, between four months and one year,	2
" Best bull calf of any breed, between 4 months and one year,	2
" Best Durham heifer, between 2 & 3 y'rs	2
" Best Durham heifer, 1 and 2 years,	2
" Best Durham heifer calf, between four months and one year,	1
" Best heifer of any other breed, between one and two years,	2
" Best heifer calf of any other breed, four months and one year,	1
" Best Devon heifer, 1 and 2 years,	3
" Best Devon heifer, 2 and 3 years,	3
" Best Devon bull, 1 and 2 years,	2
" Best Devon calf, 1 and 2 years,	2
" Best heifer of any other breed, two and three years,	2
" Two best fat cattle,	3
" Two second best fat cattle,	2
" Best Durham calf, between four months and one year,	2

[The Society will give premiums for all thorough bred cattle and sheep, other than those published in this list.]

SHEEP.

For the best Leicester buck,	$2
" Next best,	*A. Far.*
" Best Southdown buck,	2
" Best buck of any other breed,	2
" Best ewe of any other breed,	2
" Best pair of lambs of any breed,	2
" Best lot of live mutton, not less than two in number,	2
" Best specimen of slaughtered mutton,	2
" Best Leicester ewe,	2
" Best Southdown ewe,	2

HOGS.

For the best boar of any breed, over 1 year,	$4
" Best boar of any breed, under 1 year,	2
" Best sow of any breed, over 1 year,	3
" Best sow of any breed, under 1 year,	2
" Best litter of pigs,	2
" Best barrow or spayed sow,	2

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

For the best acre of corn,	$5
" Best acre of wheat,	5
" Best acre of oats,	3
" Best acre of rye,	3
" Best eighth of an acre of ruta baga,	1
" Best lot of vegetables for table use,	5
" Best eighth of an acre of sugar beets,	1
" Best eighth of an acre of Irish potatoes,	1

[To be accompanied by a full statement of the mode of cultivation, and a certificate of three gentlemen will be required in proof of the product and the measurement of the ground. Members of the Society are requested to bring samples of their grain and root crops.]

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

For the best Plough, $5
" Second best, *A. Far.*
" Best set of implements for the cultivation of corn and tobacco, 5
" Best fanning mill or wheat fan, *A. Far.*
" Best horse power and threshing machine, 5
" Best drill machine, *A. Far.*
" Any new and valuable machine, *A. Far.*
" Best tobacco prize, 5

FRUIT.

For the best half bushel of winter apples, 2
" Best peck of winter pears, 2
" Best five pounds of honey, 2
" Best varieties of fruits, 2

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

For the best specimen of home spun cloth, not less than five yards, $2
" Best home made quilt, 2
" Best home made counterpane, 2
" Best lot of home made yarn stockings, half dozen pairs, 2
" Best lot of home made cotton stockings, half dozen pairs, 2
" Best specimen of domestic wine, 2
" Best specimen of domestic bounce, 2
" Best specimen of domestic cordial, 2
" Best specimen of Butter, not less than four prints, 2
" Handsomest specimen of silk or worsted embroidery, 5
" Best display of manufactured goods, 3
" Best lot of servants' shoes, 2
" Best home made wheat bread, 2 loaves, 2
" Best home made pound cake, 2
" Best home made sponge cake, 2
" Best specimens of home made carpeting or rugs, 2

POULTRY.

For the best pair of turkeys, $2
" Best pair of geese, 2
" Best pair of muscovy ducks, 1
" Best pair of puddle ducks, 1
" Best pair of fowls (male and female) 1
" Best pair of capons, 2

TOBACCO.

For the best hogshead of tobacco, $12
" Second best hogshead of tobacco, 10
" Third best hogshead of tobacco, 8
" Fourth best hogshead of tobacco, 5

ESSAY.

For the best essay on the system of farming best adapted to the tobacco growing counties of Maryland, *Skinner's Farmers' Library.*

☞ Hon. JOHN T. STODDARD and THOMAS F. BOWIE have been invited to deliver the annual addresses before the Society.

☞ There will be an Agricultural Dinner given, the proceeds to be applied to defraying the ordinary expenses.

☞ The price of subscription is $5 per year.

☞ For list of officers and committees of inspection, see handbills.

August 13th, 1847.

PLOUGHING IN LANDS AND BONE DUST.

To the Editor of American Farmer.

I have not had time yet to read the "Farmers," but from the opportunity which I have had of glancing them over, I am much pleased, and feel confident that no farmer who subscribes and reads will lose his money. I have not been long engaged in cultivating the soil, and even now it is only a secondary business with me, and receives but a small portion of my personal attention—yet it is an occupation which has an interest for me which cannot be overcome by the barren, poverty-stricken fields which have hitherto refused to make me anything approaching an adequate return for the expense and labour of cultivating them. After the plan of "a Learner," I have been trying to make the land improve itself and support me at the same time. My efforts in this way have not been altogether like the dull, feeble exertions of a man who labours without hope: fortunately I am not infected with the belief common among my neighbours that our soil cannot be permanently improved. But though the result of three years' operations exhibits a gratifying improvement calculated to encourage me to persevere, yet it has also satisfied me that it is a slow and tedious way, and that more patience and energy is necessary to success than usually falls to the lot of man. I have therefore, determined to try the "high pressure system," and intend to purchase bone dust and guano enough to manure my wheat crop this fall—say 30 to 35 acres. Having this in view I request you to give me some information in regard to those manures. In looking over the Farmer, I see that you recommend that Guano should be ploughed in, but do not say to what depth, and that, it seems to me, is a question of some importance. Would you advise bone dust to be ploughed in with it—i. e. guano—where the wheat land is to be dressed with a mixture of them?—When these are used together, in what proportions should they be applied? D. M. W.

ANSWER.

Three or four inches will be sufficient depth to plough Guano in; though no possible disadvantage would result, were it to be ploughed in to twice that depth. The *nutritive* elements of Guano being extremely volatile, their natural tendency is to *ascend*, and, consequently, will find their way upwards towards the surface, whenever they may not be placed below the action of atmospheric heat.

There is no question as to the propriety of ploughing the bone-dust in with the Guano, as there is no antagonistic principle in either to act against the other: The two most essential elements are found in common in each, viz: the phosphate of lime and the constituent principle of ammonia. In Guano the latter is, to a certain extent, already formed, while there are two other forms in which it is present in a state, though inactive, yet susceptible, under the influence of heat and moisture, of being converted into the carbonate or active state, whereas, the cartilagenous portions of the bone dust, contain the same principle and is subject to the same laws of elimination.

Where *Guano* and *Bone-dust* are applied together as a dressing for wheat, we should not hesitate to apply 200 lbs. of the former, and 20 bushels of the latter, per acre. This would be a full dressing—would enable the land to bear luxuriant crops of clover, and carry it triumphantly through any course of enlightened rotation to which it may be subjected.

HORTICULTURAL.

WORK IN THE GARDEN.

In the directions we are about to give in this month, we wish to be understood that all we recommend should be done as early in the month as possible, as only a few days at this advanced period of the season make a very material difference in the chances of the perfection of a plant. With this admonition to early action, we shall commence with

Spinach.—Let the advancing crop of this excellent vegetable be thinned out. Then prepare a bed in some dry ground and sow seed, so as to have a winter and spring supply. The prickly seeded sort, is the best adapted to stand the cold of winter. Sow it about the thickness of turnip seed. When the leaves are about an inch broad thin them out so as to stand about 4 inches apart, and they may then be left to take care of themselves, provided, when thinning them out, you clear the weeds and grass away.

Lettuce.—Now is the time to set out the plants sown last month to head.

About the 20th of this month prepare a good dry border facing the South, and sow lettuce seed for late fall and early winter use. When the plants are an inch or two high, thin out so as to be 3 inches apart. If the weather should be dry, water occasionally.

Radishes.—Prepare a bed and sow seed of the following kinds for late fall use—white and black Spanish, Early short-top, white and red turnip rooted, salmon.

Celery.—Continue to earth up your celery for bleaching. Be careful to avoid covering the hearts of the plants. Be sure to do the work in a dry day, —in laying up the *stalks* to receive the earth, handle them gently so as not to bruise them, for if bruised they will become mouldy and may rot.

Small Salading of all kinds may now be sown in borders for late fall use.

Herbs—Medicinal and Pot, may be transplanted, the earlier the better. Take care to water them twice a week until they are fairly rooted and begin to grow. Both varieties of these herbs that are fit, may be cut and put away to dry in some shady place. When dry, tie them up for winter use.

Strawberry Beds.—If these have not already been cleaned out, do so as early as possible, taking off the runners and hoeing between the rows. If you design to increase the number of your beds, you should seize the occasion to set out your runners. In that event you will, of course, be careful in removing the runners from the old vines to take them up with good roots, rejecting all that are not well rooted.

In preparing the beds, lay them off 4 feet wide, with alleys so as to raise the strawberry beds, manure freely, and spade in a full spade deep, then plant your plants in rows 15 inches apart, the plants to stand the same distance asunder. Water them in dry weather every other evening about sundown; to preserve moisture in the earth, it would be well to cover the ground between the rows with long straw, fastening down the ends with wooden forks to prevent the straw from blowing away. To give an early start to the plants, it would be well to give them two or three waterings with a decoction made of fresh horse dung, which should be put to soak in a barrel, say 10 gallons of dung to 20 of water.

Plants which may be set out, and thus treated, will bear fruit freely next summer. Early next spring remove the straw, and work in with the hoe, between the rows, a moderate dressing of stable manure well rotted down; then replace fresh straw, and you will not fail to have a good crop of strawberries, provided that, if the weather is dry when they are in bloom, you give the roots copious waterings two or three times a week to enable the fruit to set and be developed. This is a delicious fruit and is worthy of being well attended to, and as it is healthful withal, it should be an object with every head of a family in the country, to see that his garden is supplied with a well sized bed.

Turnips.—Thin out your turnips to 6 or 8 inches asunder, hoe out the weeds, and loosen the earth around the bulbs.

Sowing Cabbage Seed.—Prepare a bed on a warm dry border—manure it well, dig in the manure and rake finely, then sow seed of the *Early Smyrna, Early York, Early Battersea, Early Russia, Early Sugar Loaf, Drum Head* and flat *Dutch* varieties. These will give you plants for setting out in about five weeks, and will ensure to you and your family early cabbages next summer. When the time arrives to set them out, we will tell you how to do it to make them stand the winter. Your plant bed must be watered until the plants come up, as also twice a week just before sun down, in dry weather after they come up.

As the fly may attack the plants, the best way to prevent it, is to soak the seed in fish oil 12 hours before sowing them. When the plants first come up, sow soot over them, three or four mornings in succession, while the dew is on them.

Cauliflowers.—From the 20th to the last of this month, is the time to sow Cauliflowers. Select a warm dry border, manure it, dig it well and rake fine, then sow the seeds. Should the weather be dry, water the bed when you sow it, and after the plants come up. In a month they will be ready to be transplanted into frames to stand the winter, or into beds under hand-glasses.

Cauliflower and Broccoli.—Your early beds of these now growing, if the weather prove dry, must be watered. If this is not attended to they may fail to flower in October.

Tomatoes.—Be careful to *pickle* and *preserve* a full supply of these for family use; prepared either way, they are unsurpassed by any other vegetable product fashioned into pickles and preserves, and sure we are

that there are none more rich, spicy or healthful.—This the hyper-critic may say, is *not* gardening. True, it is not, but it is attending to the luxuries of one's family, and he who takes exception to it is not fit to have one.

Gooseberries, Currants and *Raspberries.*—Transplantations of these should be made early this month. Be careful to water the plants pretty freely twice a week if the weather should prove dry.

From Hovey's Horticultural Magazine.

DESCRIPTIONS OF EIGHT NEW VARIETIES OF PRAIRIE ROSES.

BY THE EDITOR.

No productions of the flower garden have attracted more attention within a few years than the new and beautiful varieties of Prairie roses, which now form the principal ornaments of every good collection during the month of July, after other roses have gone. Mr. Feast, who was the first to give a new feature to our native Prairie, deserves the thanks of every lover of this beautiful tribe for the origination of his superb seedlings. For years, we have been cultivating foreign roses, very few of which, in comparison with the Prairies, deserve a place in the garden. Some of the Boursaults are exceedingly showy and brilliant, but with few exceptions, they, like all other varieties of climbing roses, must give way to the Prairies.

Two years ago, we gave a full descriptive account of all Mr. Feast's Seedlings, (vol. x. p. 246,) with a view to correct any errors which might have arisen in the dissemination of the kinds; and we believe our article was the means of enabling cultivators to detect mistakes, and the different varieties are now readily obtained under the correct name.

It is well known that, since Mr. Feast produced his fine seedlings, our correspondent, Mr. J. Pierce, of Linnæan Hall, near Washington, D. C., whose place we have twice noticed, has raised several new and extremely beautiful varieties, some of them vieing with Mr. Feast's, while others much excel them. Mr. Pierce raised twelve kinds, brief descriptions of which he sent us last season; but, as they only referred to the color of the flowers, we thought it preferable to delay their publication until we could render them complete. Most of our plants have flowered finely this year, and we have been enabled to do so, and we now annex the following descriptions of each:—

ANNE MARIA.—Flowers, medium size, pale pink, with rose centre, cupped and very double: clusters, large, numbering twenty to thirty flowers, and rather compact: foliage, medium size, very pale green, undulated, slightly serrated, and rather smooth: spines, strong, pale green: habit, robust, vigorous and good. It is quite distinct from any of the others.

EVA CORINNE. — Flowers, large, very delicate blush, with beautiful carmine centre, globular, and very double: clustars, medium size, containing from ten to twenty flowers, rather compact: foliage, medium size, rugose: spines, purplish: habit, vigorous and very erect. This is the most delicate of all the Prairies, and its clusters of blush flowers, with their deep centre, which are perfectly globular and quite fragrant, entitle it to a prominent place in every garden. It blooms quite late.

MISS GUNNELL.—Flowers, medium size, of a delicate blush or bluff, precisely of the shade of Lady Hume Camellia, cupped, very regular, and double: clusters, large and spreading, numbering twenty-five to thirty flowers: foliage, large, undulated, and partially rugose: habit, vigorous and good. This is quite unique for the delicate tint of its flowers, which are produced in large clusters. It is one of the very best.

JANE.—Flowers, medium size, of a beautiful light, or lilac, rose, imbricated, and very double: clusters, large and rather compact, numbering twenty-five or thirty flowers: foliage, large, coarsely, and sharply serrated: habit, very strong and vigorous.

RANUNCULIFLORA.— Flowers, small, pale blush, very much resembling Baltimore Belle: clusters, large, usually twenty or thirty flowers: foliage, very rugose: spines, purplish: habit, vigorous and good. This variety is slightly fragrant, and flowers rather late.

PRIDE OF WASHINGTON.—Flowers, medium size, pale rose, cupped and doubled, somewhat resembling Jane: clusters, medium size, numbering ten to twenty flowers: foliage, medium size, slightly serrated, and nearly smooth; habit, vigorous and good.

TRIUMPHANT.—Flowers, medium size, deep brilliant rose, imbricated, very double, and finely formed: clusters, large, and rather compact, numbering from twenty to thirty flowers: foliage, very large and handsome, undulated and bright green, deeply and sharply serrated: habit, very strong and robust. This variety is remarkable for its ample and beautiful foliage, as well as its deep and brilliant rosy flowers.

PRESIDENT.—Flowers, small, deep pink, compact, and very double: clusters, medium size, and rather loose, numbering fifteen to twenty flowers: foliage, medium size, rugose, and rather deeply serrated: prickles, purplish red: habit, vigorous and good—This is one of the latest flowering varieties.

These are all Mr. Pierce's seedlings, eight in number. We have four others, which have not yet flowered sufficiently strong to give a correct description: their names are, Mrs. Hovey, a superb white; Virginia Lass; Linnæan Hall Beauty, and one unnamed. Another season they will probably bloom in fine condition. Mr. Pierce speaks very highly of Mrs. Hovey, as being a fine white, the "largest, doublest and best" of all his seedlings; it is of superb habit, with splendid deep green foliage, and, if it proves a pure white, it will be the greatest acquisition which has yet been made.

In our volume for 1844, (x. p. 98,) will be found an article by Mr. Pierce, upon the Prairie rose, with some remarks on its employment for hedges or live fences. In that article he states, that, having sown a lot of seeds for the purpose of stocks, "he was not a little surprised to find that he had among them 12 fine varieties of double roses." It would be gratifying to amateurs to know how he procured the seed by which he should be so very successful in producing these double varieties; whether they were from the single Prairie, or from the double varieties—or whether they had been impregnated with other sorts. We trust Mr. Pierce will find the opportunity to communicate this information, that those who wish to follow up his experiments may have some guide as to the best method to adopt to attain the end in view.

To Messrs. Feast and Pierce, the lovers of the rose are deeply indebted. Mr. Feast, we are gratified to know, has received some reward for his beautiful productions. We trust that Mr. Pierce, whose seedlings are fully equal to any which have been raised, will, in due time, also receive that token of merit which is justly his due.

FLORICULTURAL.

Prepared for the American Farmer by S. Feast, Florist.

WORK FOR SEPTEMBER.

Camellias.—Be particular to syringe these frequently, and water carefully at the roots.

Geraniums should be headed down, as directed last month, if not already done.

Oxalises, and other Cape bulbs, will require attention, as directed last month.

Stocks, sown as directed, should be potted off.

Dahlias.—Continue to stake these as becomes necessary.

Chrysanthemums.—Give these their final repotting.

Carnation layers may now be potted off in light rich soil.

Cyclamens may now be repotted.

Mignonette seed may still be sown.

Rocket Larkspur, Flos Adonis, Clarkias, and several other hardy annuals, may be sown this month to advantage.

Greenhouse Plants should receive their requisite attention—such as tying up, re-potting, &c. &c. in order, to have them prepared for winter.

RENOVATION OF WORN-OUT LANDS.

Laurel Factory, August 28, 1847.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

Mr. Editor—As "The Learner," in his last communication, contends for every thing and "a *little more*" in the improvement of "worn-out lands," there is no further cause for continuing these communications. He has virtually relinquished the whole ground in dispute; he may fairly be claimed as an advocate for that vigorous system—bought manures and all—which it was my object to recommend. He now objects only to the "high pressure" or "hot footed" *method* of bringing about these results. The effect of this system upon the temperament of "The Learner" resembles that of Bragg's battery upon the Mexicans—"They fired too rapidly, and were considered by them 'unlawful weapons.'"

Now this, Mr. Editor, is a mere matter of fancy. If "The Learner" prefers to take five years for accomplishing what may as well be done in one year, then we are content. Yet this is a pretty serious demand upon our "patience and perseverance," those staid, old-fashioned virtues which your correspondent, so earnestly and with good reason too, enforces!

Now when we talk of "patience" in such matters, I always think of that martyr to this virtue, the driver of a big, lumbering, six horse wagon, moving at the rate of two miles per hour (barring the mud holes and sloughs) when the *high pressure* locomotive dashes past at the rate of thirty miles per hour.

But, as I said before, this may be an idea peculiar to persons of a more mercurial temperament. And after all it may be much safer to move two miles per hour than thirty.

I think, Mr. Editor, that "A Learner" cannot mistake the spirit of this controversial correspondence, as he terms it—I can assure him that I have never experienced a more friendly feeling towards the world in general and my anonymous friend in particular, than while penning these hasty communications. If any ill-advised expression of mine has wounded the feelings of any one, I regret it exceedingly; and if the offended person will favour me with a visit, I promise that the sincerity of this avowal shall be made manifest.

The person alluded to in my communication as an "old fielder" was an utter stranger to me; nor did it once occur to myself that this correspondence could possibly fall under his eye. To my great sorrow, I learn that the individual has been identified, and that he and his numerous friends feel aggrieved at my inadvertent remark. That I should thus inconsiderately have wounded the feelings of a most respectable and worthy family is cause for sincere regret; and, I offer, in this acknowledgement, the only reparation which lies in my power.

HORACE CAPRON.

COW SHEDS.—If you have not already provided yourself with good dry cow sheds, facing the south, do so against fall. A good comfortable warm shed, in winter, for your cows, will save more in provender than would build you one. A cow thus cared for, can subsist upon ⅔ the food that it would take to feed a cow that is exposed to the winter's rains, snows and frosts. As the grass has proved a short crop, look to the erection of cow sheds, so that humanity may shake hands with interest.

ZIMMERMAN WHEAT.—*Thomas Duckett, Esq.* of Queen Anne district, has shown us several very large heads of this excellent variety of Wheat.—The same gentlemen sent us a sample of this Wheat last year, and stated the yield of some of the heads to be 100 grains. A few persons who hold to old fashioned notions in agriculture, and who deem all attempts at improvement useless, were disposed to think the statement smelt *fishy*. What will they think when we state that two of the heads shewn us yesterday were counted in the presence of several gentlemen and ourself, and one found to contain 108 and the other 106 grains—the other heads were not counted. This variety is said to be an early Wheat, and thereby escapes rust—the stalk is short and not easily blown down, and wherever grown this season is said to have yielded well.—*Marlboro' Gazette.*

HENS AND CHICKENS.—As the season for rearing chickens is at hand, I beg leave as a professed utilitarian, to give your readers a hint of a plan which I have successfully practised for several years, for economizing the time of my hens, because, in this as in other instances "time is money"—or rather time is *eggs*, and eggs is *money*.

When I have a number of setting hens in process of incubation, the first one that comes off with her chickens, I put in a coop, just as other people do; when the second one comes off, if a day or two has intervened, and I were to put the last hatched chickens to the first hen, which has now had time to become acquainted with the number and color of her own brood, she will abuse and kill the new comers as intruders, especially if they are of a color different from her own;—instead of this, I remove the first hen and put the second in her place with the chickens of both—when the third comes off, I put her in the place of the second—and give her all the chickens, and so on, until the last hen has as many as she can attend to, a large hen comfortably broods 25 or 30 chickens—and the hens which have been taken from the chickens, after a few days will resume laying again, instead of wasting their time with the care of a few chickens. I have known an instance where one hen has raised 38 chickens to maturity.

☞He that would clean a blot with blotted fingers makes a greater stain.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE, FROM 28TH OF JULY, TO THE 28TH OF AUGUST.

Kept at Schellman Hall, near Sykesville, Carroll county.

Taken at 6 o'clock, a. m., 2 o'clock, noon, and at 6 o'clock.

	Wind.			Temperature			Remarks.
28	W	W	E	56	69	63	Clear
29	SE	SE	SE	57	70	63	Clear
30	SE	SE	E	59	75	71	Fog, Clear
31	SE	SW	W	66	83	75	Clear
1	W	W	W	70	76	73	Rain, Cloudy
2	W	W	W	63	79	73	Clear
3	SW	SW	SW	63	79	73	Clear
4	W	W	SW	65	72	73	Clear
5	W	E	W	66	79	70	Clear
6	W	E	E	64	60	59	Cloudy Rain ¼ in
7	E	E	E	60	73	69	Cloudy Shower
8	E	SE	W	67	71	74	Cloudy Shower Clear
9	E	SW	SW	72	80	74	Fog Clear
10	S	S	S	72	83	78	Cloudy
11	SW	SW	SW	73	83	76	Cloudy Clear
12	W	W	W	70	85	78	Clear
13	S	S	S	69	80	75	"
14	S	SW	SW	72	79	75	Fog Rain 1 inch
15	S	SW	W	70	83	75	Fog Clear
16	SW	SW	W	71	79	75	Fog Clear
17	S	SW	SW	69	82	78	Clear
18	W	NW	NW	72	75	71	Clear
19	W	W	W	62	73	67	Clear
20	W	W	W	55	73	67	Clear
21	NW	W	W	54	75	67	Cloudy Shower
22	W	SW	SW	60	73	70	Clear
23	W	W	W	60	73	69	Clear
24	NW	NW	NW	60	76	70	Clear
25	W	SE	E	62	73	70	Clear
26	W	W	W	59	75	70	Clear
27	W	W	SW	60	80	75	Clear Gust 1-2 in
28	SE			69			Fog

BALTIMORE MARKET.—AUG. 28.

The last arrival of steamers from Europe, brings advices that the prospect of the harvest is very good, and the consequence has been, an unsettled state of the produce market, tho' in consequence of the short supplies here, a reduction in prices has not been equal to the fall represented to have taken place in England—We quote Howard-st Flour, at $5,75, but purchasers are not willing to purchase without a reduction from this rate—City Mills, $5,75, firm, sales at the beginning of this week at $5,87a$6—Susquehanna, nothing doing—Wheat, good to prime, reds, 110a116, but sales of small lots have been made at 120a122; ord. to good, 100a110—white wheat, 115a 122; and family flour, white, at 125a135c. Rye, Md, 70a72—Pa. rye 75—Corn, white 68a70; no transactions in yellow—Oats, 35a40, as in quality—Molasses, Cuba. com. 25; prime P. Rico 35c.—Mess Pork $15,37; prime 12,50—Bacon, hams, 10c., sides 9½, shoulders 8; Beef, mess, 14a14,50; No. 1, $12,50a13—Lard, 10½a11, in kegs—Butter, western, 12a12½ in kegs—Sugars, no N. O. in first hands; P. Rico 6a7,50—Wool, sales at 27a40 for com. to fine washed; the demand active—Whiskey, 27½a28, in bbls. and 27 in hhds.—Cattle, prices have declined a little this week, in consequence of the large supply; on Monday, 800 were offered, of which 691 were sold, at prices ranging from $2a3,25, per 100 lbs. on the hoof, equal to $4a6,25 net, averaging 2,75 gross—Hogs, supply fair, $6,50a7, firm. In Tobacco, the demand is rather better this week for Md., and sales are making to a moderate extent; Ohio, dull, except the better sorts, which are selling readily at $4,50a10—we quote inferior and common Maryland, $2a50, middling to good $3a3,50; good $6; and fine $7a12. Common Ohio $2a3,50; good $4.50a6; fine red and wrappery $6.50a9; fine yellow $9a11, and extra wrappery, $10 a12. Inspections for the last five weeks, 9483 hhds. viz: Md. 5623 hhds; Ohio 4669; Va. Ky. & Pa. 91. —Coupons 81a84.

Prices of Guano, Poudrette, and Bone Dust.

Bone Dust, as in quality, 50a62½ per bushel—Poudrette, $1,25 per bbl. or 25c. per bushel—Guano, *Peruvian*, $51 per ton, inspection included; *Ichaboe*, $48 per ton, for first quality; $45 for second; *Patagonian*, $42½; *African*, $40. After the ship Woden discharged her cargo there was in the city upwards of 600 tons. The sales have since reduced the stock to less than 150 tons.

P. S.—*Aug.* 30.—The steamer Guadalquiver, has just arrived at N. York, with 10 days later intelligence from Liverpool, by which we learn another slight decline in breadstuffs had taken place—Cotton was firm.

TO FARMERS AND PLANTERS.

A. D. CHILDS' PATENT HORSE-POWER.

A GREAT IMPROVEMENT! This Horse Power has undoubtedly many and very great advantages over all other Horse Powers in this country, in the following particulars, viz:

1st, it is all Iron, except the sweeps (or arms) to which the horses are attached, and of course is very durable.

2dly, The main part of this Power, including the main wheel, is all cast together in one piece, and it is cast round, giving it great strength and permanency.

3dly, This power, when all together in running order, (except the sweeps,) weighs about 690 pounds, and occupies about the space of a common sized was tub; and the entire machine, including the sweeps, can be moved in a common one-horse cart.

4thly, The wheels are all covered out of sight, and secured from dust, or any possible harm to its attendants.—A very important consideration.

5thly, The ease with which this Power is propelled, perfectly adapts it to the use of one horse, whilst from its peculiar construction, it combines strength sufficient for six common sized horses; and it is confidently believed that two horses with this power, will do the work of at least three with the common powers now in use.

PRICE $110—or without the wood work of the sweeps $100.

The subscriber would invite his patrons and the public generally to call and examine this Horse Power for themselves, and also his Threshing Machines, as he has several on hand of supesior workmanship. He has also on hand a quantity of Ploughs of all sizes and various patterns and will made, with a great variety of other Implements, such as Wheat Fans, Harrows; Swingle-trees, Corn Shellers, Oorn and Cob Crushers, &c. &c., which he will sell very low, as he wishes to close out his old stock, which he has been several years reducing.

Cylindrical Straw Cutters and Plough Castings on hand at Wholesale & Retail as heretofore. J. S. EASTMAN,

In the rear of his old Store, No. 180 PRATT STREET, near HANOVER-ST. Entrance by alley through the Front Store.

Sep 1

CHEAPEST BEAL-ESTATE IN KENTUCKY, at $10,000.

THE Subscriber desirous to remove south, offers for sale 5000 acres of land adjoining Grayson, the county seat of Carter, 24 miles from the Ohio river, upon little Sandy river, embracing his residence, a newly erected commodious brick dwelling, situated upon a beautiful eminence, commanding an extensive view in every direction. His farm of 400 acres of corn, meadow and pasture land under good fencing. The portion not fenced might at trifling expense, be converted into one of the finest sheep walks in the West, being the best latitude for the purpose. His Salt Works known for many years as Little Sandy Saline, with metal and all other necessary fixtures, with an inexhaustible supply of water, which makes the best article sold in the State, with stone coal bank 3 feet in depth, at convenient distances from the water, and a ready market at 33 cts. per bushel. The purchaser would have a monopoly in this branch. Also a newly built mill upon the most approved plan. The country affords a market for all the lumber which can be sawed, and the river during much of the year is navigable for flat boats, rafts, &c. The improvements are worth $5,000, and the property would yield a rent of $1,000 per annum. Those desirous of investing safely and profitably cannot desire a finer opportunity than that now offered. Further description deemed unnecessary. Address, post paid, at Grayson, Carter Co. Kentucky.

July 1 6 m. WILLIAM G. CARTER.

GARDEN & FLOWER SEEDS, Agricultural and other BOOKS, for sale by SAMUEL SANDS,

Ap. 1. 122 Baltimore-street.

"Spade labour, the perfection of good husbandry."

PULVERIZATION. DECOMPOSITION.

THE "PREMIUM PLOUGH"—In PROUTY & MEARS' No. 5 1-2, "confessedly the best PLOUGH known in this country for beauty of work and pulverizing the soil," we have combined the most perfect swing as well as wheel Plough, connected also with the principles of self-sharpening and centre draught, which with the facility of turning it into a Tandem 2, 4, or 3 horses abreast Plough in a minute of time, renders it the NE PLUS ULTRA of perfection. During the past season it received the first premium for the BEST PLOUGH, at Philadelphia; a first, second and third premium at New Castle county, Del.; the Imperial Medal of Russia, of massive gold, value $300; and at Prince George's society, Md. the highest testimony of approbation, in not permitting it to compete, having already received the first premium as "the *BEST PLOUGH* for general purposes." Their one-horse Plough No. 2 1-2, is strongly recommended for light soils and horticultural purposes, being built after the same model, self sharpening, and carrying a sod furrow 10 in wide with great ease and precision.

In addition to the above, the Premium list of the Prouty & Mears' Centre Draught Plough for the present season, is as follows, viz:

New Castle Co. Del., 6 premiums out of 8, including the first two premiums.
Concord, Mass., 5 premiums out of 8, furrows 10 in. deep.
Philadelphia, 1st premium for the best plough, of the trial.
Taunton, Mass., 5 premiums, including the three first premiums.
Newtown, Bucks Co. Pa., "the best Plough for pulverizing the soil and burying the stubble."

For sale at No. 55 LIGHT ST. Baltimore, MR. EZRA WHITMAN being appointed sole Agent for sales in Baltimore and vicinity. dec 1

SMULL & Co.

No. 60 PRATT-ST. and EAST FALLS AVENUE,
3 doors north of Pratt-street Bridge,

HAVE FOR SALE, *STEAM BOILERS* of various sizes, well adapted to Farms, for cooking food or Cattle—as Economy is the order of the day, they can safely recommend them before any other Boiler now in use, for saving of fuel and labor.

They manufacture likewise to order, Cylinder or Portable Boilers, Force and Light Pumps—Copper, Wrought-iron, and Lead Pipes—Brass Cocks, Couplings, and all other apparatus for *Steaming* purposes.

☞All orders thankfully received and promptly executed. Ap. 1

THRESHING MACHINES, HORSE POWERS, &c.

The Subscribers are manufacturing and offer for sale* Gray's Patent Endless Rail-way Horse Powers (see fig.) for 1 and 2 Horses. The construction of these Powers is very simple, strong and effectual. Price $85a$110

Lever Horse Powers for 2 and capacity sufficient for 6 horses, $100

Lever Horse Powers for 2 or 8 horses, $150

Threshing Machines, 35, 40a$60

Seperators, 15a$20

Rice's Fanning Mills, $25a$30

Watkins' and Rolling Screen Mills $25a30

Wood & Iron Braced Cradles, with warranted Scythes attached 4a$5

Grain and Hay Rakes $10a12

Harvest Tools of every descripton,

2 and 3 Furrow Plows for Seeding, Cultivating Corn, &c. 5.50a$6.50

Cultivators for Corn and Tobacco. Made with cast-iron and steel tipes $3.50a5

*It is proper to remark in regard to this description of Power, that the weight of the Horse is as important as strength, consequently they are of most value to those who work large horses—otherwise the Lever Powers are decidedly preferable and best adapted for the southern counties of Md. and Virginia, where the horses are generally small and light.

R. SINCLAIR, Jr. & Co.
June 1 Manufacturers & Seedsmen, 62 Light-st.

BOMMER'S METHOD FOR MAKING MANURE—The subscriber has been appointed by Mr. Bommer, his agent for the Southern States, and will dispose of the Books, with the right to use them, for any sized farm, at $5 each. Address (post paid) m1 SAML. SANDS, office of "A. Farmer."

GUANO.—Ladies and others wanting small parcels of Guano for their flowers, grass plots, &c. can obtain it at the office of the American Farmer. June 1

☞Printing in every variety executed here.

NOTICE.

CLAIRMONT NURSERY,
Near Baltimore, Md.

We again take pleasure in notifying our various customers and the public, that the time has nearly arrived for transplanting Trees, &c., and consider our stock of fruit trees superior to what they have ever been before both in quality and in quantity, as we have had an opportuty of testing their correctness from our standard Trees which are extensively bearing.—We deem it unnecessary to enumerate the various kinds of fruit and ornamental Trees, Shrubbery, Roses, Green House plants, Flower roots, &c. &c., suffice it to say our Nursery and Seed Garden occupies about 100 acres of the Farm, and our determination is to give satisfaction if possible, both in price and quality—printed Catalogues, giving our prices, will be be sent gratis; where large quantities are wanted considerable discount will be made. Letters addressed to R. Sinclair, Jr. & Co., Light St., Baltimore, or the subscribers, Balto. Md. will meet with prompt attention.

Persons wishing to act as Agents will please let us hear from me. Oct 1 SINCLAIR & CORSE.

THE SUBSCRIBER takes pleasure in returning thanks to the many gentlemen who have favoured him with their MILL-WORK; also to the farmers and planters for their liberal support in the Machine line, and would respectfullyy inform them, that his endeavors to please will continue unremitting. He is prepared at all times to build any of the following kinds of MILLS. Overshot, Pitch Back, Breast, Undershot, Reacting, Steam, Wind, Tide, Horse-power, or Tread Mills; and having the best of workmen employed at pattern and machine making, he can at all times furnish the best articles at the lowest prices, such as Horsepowers, Pettigrew Shellers, Murray's Shellers, 4 kinds hand and power Shellers, portable Mills adapted to any power, Corn and Cob grinders, Straw, Hay and Fodder Cutters, Carry log and Mill Screws; also manufactures Hoisting Machines, Hoisting Cranes, Pile Drivers, Turning Lathes and Steam Engines; and any kind of Machine, Model or Mill-work built to order. Any kind of Castings and Smith-work at the lowest prices. I warrant all Mills planned and erected by me to operate well. JAS. MURRAY,
Millwright, York near Light st. Baltimore.

Also for sale, Jas. Murray's patent separating Shellers, which shells and puts the corn in perfect order at the same time, for the mill or for shipping—Persons living near the city can bring with them one or two barrels of corn, and give the sheller a fair trial before purchasing.

He has also for sale, the following second hand Machinery: 2 pair 4 ft 6 in. French burr Millstones, with all the gearing; 1 pair 3 ft 6 in. French Burr Millstones, with all the gearing; and some Saw Mill work—the whole are good, and any or all of the above will be sold low. n1

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS—LABOR SAVING MACHINERY.—*GEORGE PAGE*, Machinist & Manufacturer, Baltimore st. West of Schroeder st. Baltimore, is now prepared to supply Agriculturists and all others in want of Agricultural and Labor-saving MACHINERY, with any thing in his line. He can furnish Portable Saw Mills to go by steam, horse or water power; Lumber Wheels; Horse Powers of various sizes, ranging in price from $85 to $200, and each simple, strong and powerful. His *Horse Power & Thrashing Machine*, he is prepared to supply at the low price of $125 complete; the Thrashing Machines without the horse power, according to size, at $30, 40, 65 and $75; Improved Seed and Corn Planter, Portable Tobacco Press; Portable Grist Mills complete, $12.

HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE.

Farmers! Be early in sending your orders for Machines to cut your wheat; the time from now to harvest is so short, that any delay may lead to disappointment.

It is now decided beyond a doubt, that where this machine is well known, no other machine for the same purpose can be *sold* without great sacrifice, *if* at all. Address the patentee as usual. may 1 OBED HUSSEY, Baltimore.

E. WHITMAN'S AGRICULTURAL WARE-HOUSE, 55 *LIGHT STREET, Baltimore.*—The subscriber has the pleasure to announce to his numerous customers, and to the public generally, that he has on hand and for sale, a well selected assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, adapted to the wants of the Farmer. And although his Machine Shop, together with its contents, were destroyed by fire on the night of the 17th inst., he is again prepared to meet the orders of his customers, with usual dispatch, and solicits a continuance of public patronage.

Baltimore, July 27. E. WHITMAN. Jr.

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKES.—A small lot for sale at the Office of the American Farmer—Price 50 cents per peck. June 1

HUSSEY'S REAPING MACHINE.

THE subscriber will continue to Manufacture his Reaping Machines in Baltimore; Swan street, near Marsh Market.

PRICES:

Large machine with six feet cutter and forward wheels and zinc platform - - - - - - - $175 00

Medium size, with 5½ feet cutter—broad rim iron wheel suited for soft ground, with the gearing placed out of the reach of mud—the crank to run entirely in brass with brass pinion on it; and zinc platform, and forward wheels, - - - - - - - $150 00

The same machine, without forward wheels, - $130 00

Small machine, in its usual form, without forward wheels, with 5 feet cutter—crank running in brass, with brass pinion and zinc platform, - - - - - - $120 00

The above machines will be furnished with one extra bevil wheel and two iron pinions, one extra rake, six cutters, and a superior screw wrench, a cold chisel and panels and fifty rivets to replace cutters.

The small machine, with 5 feet cutters, made as usual, without extras, with usual quantity of brass work, $100 00

Farmers who design to procure this machine, should make application to the subscriber early in the fall to make sure of getting a machine, as the supply at harvest time has never been equal to the demand. A much larger demand is anticipated for the next harvest, from the abundant proof from all parts of the country, that wherever this machine makes its appearance, *other machines*, for the same purpose are generally abandoned. This fact which I am prepared to substantiate will be the best certificate which can be placed before the farmer.

OBED HUSSEY.

P. S.—A Patent has been recently granted for the late improvements—persons wishing to purchase the right, will please address OBED HUSSEY, Baltimore, Md.

sep 1.

GUANO! GUANO!!

THE subscriber has in warehouse and offers for sale in quantities to suit:

Peruvian Guano, Ship Woden's cargo,
Do do Barque Mary's do
Patagonian do
Ichaboe do Ship Burmah's do

These Guano's have been all inspected, and farmers ordering may depend on receiving a pure article, and every attention being given to its proper shipment. Address by mail

W. WHITELOCK,

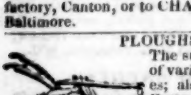
Sept.—2m.* Corner of Gay and High streets.

AYRSHIRE BULL CALVES.—For Sale, TWO Bull Calves of the Ayrshire breed—one about 4 months old—the other 1 month old—both out of imported cows—they bid fair to be very fine animals. Price, delivered in Baltimore, any time before the 1st November, $50 for the oldest, and $30 for the youngest. Apply to SAM'L SANDS, Office American Farmer. Sep. 1. 1t.

BONE DUST AND POUDRETTE.

THE Subscribers are prepared to furnish Bone Dust and Poudrette at the following prices, to wit: Bone Dust warranted pure and ground fine at 62 1-2 cents per bushel—Poudrette of good quality for $1,25 per bbl. or 25 cts. per bushel, all deliverable at the factory. Apply to T. BAYNES, at the factory, Canton, or to CHANEY HOSKINS, No. 52 Pitt-st.—Baltimore. sep 1—1t*

PLOUGHS! PLOUGHS!!



The subscriber is manufacturing Ploughs of various patterns and of different sizes; also Wheat Fans, Cylindrical Straw Cutters, Corn and Tobacco Cultivators, CORN SHELLERS, &c. Also,

THRESHING MACHINES and HORSE POWERS—these latter are used by the following gentlemen, to whom reference is made, as to their superior value, viz. Messrs. T. Beard, Th. Beard, Dr. *Watkins*, J. T. Hodges, T. Welsh, *W.* Mackall, J. Eichhart, A. Sellman, R. Sellman, *W.* Hopkins, J. Kent, Geo. Wells, Geo. Gale, Dr. Fenwick, A. Franklin, J. C. Weems, of Anne Arundel county; G. *W. Weems*, J. T. Barber, R. B. Chew, *W.* Boswell, Y. Howes, of Calvert co. Md. ☞Agent of Evans Davis, Baltimore co. for sale of the Woodcock Plow.

Pennsylvania Grain Cradles. CHAS. H. DRURY,

Gillingham alley, entrance from Howard st. near Pratt, and store, Hollingsworth st. corner Pratt

mal

LIME—LIME—The subscriber is prepared to furnish from his depot at the City Block, Baltimore, ALUM STONE LIME of the purest description, deliverable at any point on the Chesapeake Bay or its tributaries, at such prices as cannot fail to please.

He is also prepared to furnish superior building Lime at 25c. per bushel, in hhds., or at $1 per bbl. E. J. COOPER,

July 1 City B Baltimore, lock.

150 GUANO.

Tons Peruvian Guano, Company's Importation.
25 " Ichaboe, "
100 " Patagonia, "
100 " Saldanha bay "
150 " African and Chilian.

The above Guano is all *inspected*, and warranted pure as when imported, and will be sold to dealers and farmers, at the lowest prices by S. FENBY & BRO.,

Sep 1 Corner of Gay & Pratt-sts., Balto.

ETRURIAN SEED WHEAT, raised by Wm. T. Goldsborough, Esq. of Dorchester Co. Md. A lot of this wheat, which looks very promising, will be prepared for seed, and sold by the subscriber, in bags of 2 bushels.

July 1 SAM'L SANDS, 122 Baltimore-st.

☞*A sample of the above wheat can be seen at our store—it is very superior*—it is put up in 2 bushel bags, at $2 a bushel.

THE SUBSCRIBER offers at PUBLIC SALE, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st of September next, at his farm (Marsh Mount,) near Delaware City, New Castle county, Delaware, *Twelve fine long wooled Shearling BUCKS*, the get of his imported Oxfordshire Bucks, selected by himself out of the best flock in England in 1845, and out of his best Leicester Ewes. They will be numbered and sold by auction, without reserve, to the highest and best bidder. The sale will commence at 2 o'clock P. M. Terms cash.

The subscriber will be pleased to see any gentleman who may favor him with his company.

Aug. 1 C. B. REYBOLD.

The "Simon pure," and invincible WILEY PLOW still in the field—A. G. MOTT, at No. 38 ENSOR STREET, near the *Bel-Air Market*—Manufacturer and Vender of Implements of Husbandry, viz. *Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, Grain-Cradles, Wheat-Fans, Corn-Shellers, Straw-Cutters*, Endless chain *Horse Powers, Threshing Machines*, &c. &c.—through this medium, would apprize the agricultural community of the fact, that he is the only manufacturer in the "Monumental city" of the GENUINE WILEY PLOW (right and left hand) composed of the real "simon pure" and justly celebrated New York composition, chilled castings, the points of which, are warranted to stand the most rugged soil equal to steel, at a cost of about *two cents* per acre, for blacksmith's bill.—If you are for bargains, call, or send your orders, for he guarantees his implements good as the best, and cheap as the cheapest, *for cash*, and delivered in any part of the city free of charge.

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